DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 402 096 PS 024 876

TITLE Measures of Child Well-Being in Utah, 1996.
INSTITUTION Utah Children, Salt Lake City.
PUB DATE Jan 96
NOTE 73p.
AVAILABLE FROM Utah Children, 747 East South Temple, Suite 150, Salt Lake City, UT 84102 ($10).
PUB TYPE Statistical Data (110) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Adolescents; Births to Single Women; Birth Weight; Child Abuse; Child Health; *Children; Class Size; Crime; Day Care Centers; Demography; Divorce; Dropout Rate; Early Parenthood; Economically Disadvantaged; Homeless People; Infant Mortality; Infants; Mortality Rate; One Parent Family; Poverty; Prenatal Care; State Surveys; Statistical Studies; Statistical Surveys; Tables (Data); *Well Being
IDENTIFIERS Arrests; *Utah

ABSTRACT

This 1996 Kids Count report presents data and analysis for 20 indicators of children's well-being in Utah. The report's introductory section discusses the impact of social and economic trends, which may contribute to a polarization of "have's" and "have nots" in Utah. The bulk of the report provides statistics on the 20 indicators, clustered within four major areas: (1) health, including first trimester prenatal care, low birth weight newborns, infant mortality, births to adolescents, immunization rates, and children eligible for free or reduced price school meals; (2) education, including current educational expenditures per child, average class size, dropout rate, and idle teenagers; (3) safety, including child abuse investigations, child death rates, teen violent death rates, and juvenile violent crime arrest rates; and (4) economic security, including divorce rates, single-headed families with children, available spaces in licensed child care centers, children receiving subsidized child care, children in poverty, public aid recipients, and homeless children. For each indicator, background information is provided on the selection of the indicator, indicators are defined, and yearly Utah data from 1985 to 1994 on the indicator are presented. County data are also presented for 1994. A section describing Utah Children, the Utah Kids Count project, the Children of Color Task Group, and membership information concludes the publication. (KDFB)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED 402 096

PS 024876

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy

UTAH CHILDREN

Measures of Child Well-Being in Utah, 1996

Utah kids count

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Terry Haven

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

Table of Contents

DEMOGRAPHICS page 2

General Numbers about Utah's Families

INTRODUCTION page 4

A Longer View of Family Well-Being

HEALTH page 6

Prenatal Care in First Trimester; Low Birth Weight Newborns; Infant Mortality; Births to Young Women 15 to 19 yrs.; Immunization Rates; Children Eligible for Free and Reduced-price Meals at School.

EDUCATION page 11

Current Expenditures Per Child; Average Class Size; Drop-outs in Grades 10-12; Idle Teens (not in school, not graduated and not working).

SAFETY page 15

Child Abuse Investigations; Child Death Rates; Teen Violent Death Rates; Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rates.

ECONOMIC SECURITY page 19

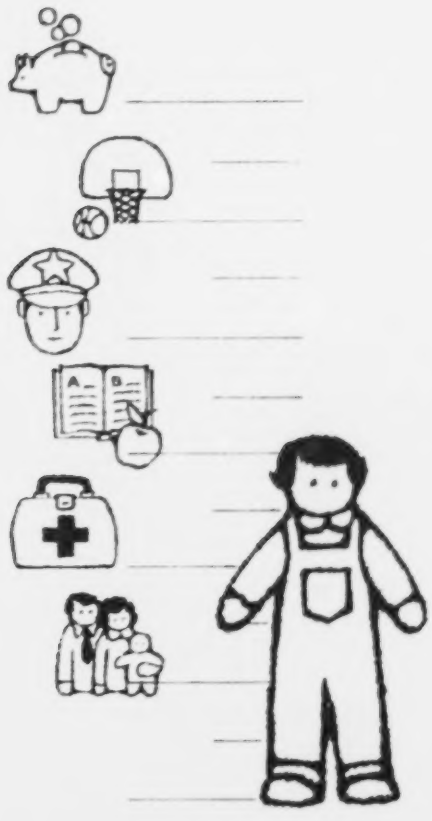
Divorce Rates; Single-headed Families with Children; Available places in Licensed Child Care Centers; Children receiving subsidized child care; Children in Poverty; Recipients of Public Assistance (AFDC); Homeless children.

CONCLUSION, SOURCES and CREDITS page 25

Summary; Bibiliography; Where to call for Data Details; About Utah Children; About the KIDS COUNT project.

© Copyright 1996 UTAH CHILDREN

Measures of Child Well-Being in Utah, 1996



This annual report presents data and analysis for four major areas of children's lives - HEALTH, EDUCATION, SAFETY and ECONOMIC SECURITY - with twenty indicators of well-being clustered within these domains. These domains of childhood - or areas of function, action and meaning - offer an interactive organizing structure. In them are clustered some life-giving aspects of childhood. The greatest amount of information about children also falls into these realms or domains. Our knowledge is enhanced when we look for dynamic connections between them.

Many indicators can be used to measure child well-being. Other domains are vital, too, such as the realms where kids play or "hang-out" after school (sports, recreation, service, etc.). We have not attempted to account for everything that affects the healthy development of children in all domains. The collective wisdom shared among the 50 KIDS COUNT state grantees - many with several years of data-based child advocacy experience - is to limit data items and track them over time, to show trends and to identify where more attention and resources are needed.

As we begin a new series of data books, we hope our readers will remember that like children, these data books will grow and develop across the years - as we follow these measures of health, education, safety and economic security.

About Utah Families

UTAH DEMOGRAPHICS

1990 Census Data:

Total Families	413,257
Total Families with related children	245,419
Female Headed (no husband present) with related children	31,632
Male Headed (no wife present) with related children	6,986

1990 Children

Under 5	169,633
5 to 9	183,674
10 to 14	183,846
15 to 19	152,455
Total (less than 20 yrs.)	689,608

Source: U.S. 1990 Census of Population and Housing

1994 Birth Rate per 1000 Population

Utah	20.0
*US	15.3

1994 Divorces, Dissolutions & Annulments

Number in Utah	8,978
Rate per 1000 population	
Utah	4.7
*US	4.6
Estimated children impacted in 1994	10,385

** Provisional data from Utah Bureau of Vital Records*

1990 Dependency Ratio per 100 Working Age Adults

Dependents, Utah	81
US	63
Pre-school children, Utah	18
US	12
School age children, Utah	48
US	30
Retirement age, Utah	16
US	21

Source: U.S. 1990 Census of Population and Housing

CHILDREN OF COLOR

Persons under 20 years by Race and Hispanic Origin:

	1990	1992
African American	4,971	5,195
American Indian/Native	12,535	13,441
Asian/Pacific Islander	13,858	15,749
Hispanic *	39,037	41,682
Non-Hispanic	653,900	676,338
Non-Hispanic, white	625,115	645,041

Persons under 5 years by Race and Hispanic Origin:

	1990	1992
African American	1,525	1,505
American Indian/Native	3,743	4,117
Asian Pacific Islander	3,772	5,019
Hispanic *	11,437	11,618
Non-Hispanic	161,025	166,387
Non-Hispanic, white	152,805	156,779

* Hispanic is not a race; Hispanics can be white or people of color.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

INCOME & SUPPORTS

Monthly Income - FY95

(Grant became effective 10/1/94 and is scheduled to remain unchanged)

Family size	Utah AFDC grant	Federal poverty level
2	$342	$835
4	$498	$1,262
6	$625	$1,689
8	$685	$2,115

Total Caseload as of 7/1/95	98,892
Families with child support orders	69,065
Families actually receiving support	28,317
AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children)	
Collections	$20,729,186
Support due	$182,866,831
Non-AFDC	
Collections	$42,368,763
Support due	$136,857,577

Source: Department of Human Services, Office of Recovery Services, Child Support Enforcement

TAXES

Federal Returns With Claimed Credits by Utah Residents

1993 Federal Adjusted Gross Income $	# returns	$ child credit	$ earned income credit
Under $1	1,049	$0	$310,816
$1 - $5,000	12,284	$480	5,603,929
5,001 - 10,000	22,158	$12,397	24,075,206
10,001 - 15,000	28,921	432,966	32,692,579
15,001 - 20,000	29,222	1,037,819	18,878,673
20,001 - 25,000	19,102	1,136,893	2,825,409
25,001 - 30,000	8,870	1,162,469	-
30,001 - 35,000	8,822	1,302,099	-
35,001 - 40,000	8,382	1,344,332	-
40,001 - 45,000	7,796	1,318,969	-
45,001 - 50,000	7,028	1,266,814	-
50,001 - 75,000	20,305	3,330,781	-
75,001 - 100,000	7,042	777,737	-
100,001 - 250,000	7,710	401,669	-
Over $250,000	2,134	44,649	
TOTALS	190,825	$13,570,074	$84,386,612

Source: Utah State Tax Commission

POVERTY

1990 Married Couple Families	19,426
With children under 18 yrs.	14,333
With children under 5 yrs	9,955
1990 Single Parent Families	
Female head of household	14,210
With children under 18 yrs.	13,324
With children under 5 yrs.	7,485
Male head of household	1,807
With children under 18 yrs.	1,349
With children under 5 yrs.	727

Children living in families in poverty **75,504**

Source: U.S. 1990 Census of Population & Housing

Children in homeless families **1,363**

Estimated number for Utah for 1994 and 1995. Source: Utah Department of Community & Economic Development; see page 23 for more information.

Utah Demographics

1990 Population	1994 Population	1990 to 1994 % change in Population	1990 % Minorities	1990 Families w/ Children	1994 Estimated Age Distribution of Children					1995 Dependency Ratio	1994 Unemployment Rate (%)	County
					Age <20	0-5	5-9	10-14	15-19			
4,800	5,150	7.3	3.8	637	1,936	403	474	555	505	94	4.0	Beaver
36,500	38,500	5.5	6.6	5,557	16,304	3,572	4,116	4,752	3,864	94	4.4	Box Elder
70,500	78,300	11.1	6.3	9,702	32,037	9,104	7,437	7,548	7,947	79	3.1	Cache
20,200	21,100	4.5	12.6	2,927	7,796	1,585	1,780	2,266	2,164	86	6.7	Carbon
700	750	7.1	3.6	101	273	47	75	79	72	81	4.3	Daggett
188,000	212,000	12.8	7.3	29,139	87,069	19,944	22,040	24,304	20,780	78	3.4	Davis
12,600	13,500	7.1	8.0	1,986	6,357	1,178	1,617	1,799	1,762	100	8.6	Duchesne
10,300	10,600	2.9	2.9	1,636	4,862	891	1,101	1,523	1,348	95	7.1	Emery
3,950	4,200	6.3	2.8	489	1,583	325	395	488	376	103	8.9	Garfield
6,600	7,950	20.5	7.7	874	2,650	606	666	709	669	74	6.3	Grand
20,900	25,200	20.6	5.4	2,858	9,740	2,519	2,295	2,504	2,422	83	3.8	Iron
5,800	6,800	17.2	3.0	794	2,745	545	697	797	706	102	4.6	Juab
5,150	5,700	10.7	4.0	700	2,092	457	511	616	508	96	7.5	Kane
11,300	11,900	5.3	6.1	1,702	5,376	993	1,396	1,647	1,340	112	4.7	Millard
5,550	6,350	14.4	1.9	804	2,747	470	666	864	747	85	4.6	Morgan
1,250	1,450	16.0	2.0	157	526	83	100	151	192	94	8.8	Piute
1,750	1,850	5.7	1.7	261	784	142	184	234	223	94	3.2	Rich
728,000	792,000	8.8	10.2	103,951	291,999	75,517	72,407	76,961	67,115	73	3.3	Salt Lake
12,600	13,400	6.3	57.6	1,785	5,835	1,541	1,494	1,454	1,346	89	7.3	San Juan
16,300	18,800	15.3	5.7	2,146	8,243	1,531	1,837	2,252	2,622	95	5.9	Sanpete
15,400	16,900	9.7	4.1	2,163	6,873	1,348	1,641	1,945	1,938	100	4.8	Sevier
15,700	21,100	34.4	3.1	2,287	7,543	1,741	1,905	2,175	1,721	63	4.4	Summit
26,700	29,300	9.7	14.0	4,059	11,110	2,470	2,633	3,251	2,756	78	4.8	Tooele
22,200	24,700	11.3	13.7	3,502	10,172	2,245	2,758	2,996	2,172	88	6.7	Uintah
266,000	299,000	12.4	5.5	35,105	128,918	36,380	28,304	29,174	35,061	80	3.2	Utah
10,100	11,800	16.8	3.3	1,523	4,785	1,044	1,174	1,334	1,233	84	5.0	Wasatch
49,100	63,400	29.1	3.9	6,068	24,526	5,532	6,076	6,807	6,111	100	3.4	Washington
2,150	2,300	7.0	3.1	302	831	169	210	236	216	90	6.6	Wayne
159,000	172,000	8.2	10.5	22,204	62,683	15,698	15,597	16,773	14,615	79	4.6	Weber
**********	1,916,000	10.8%	9.9%	245,419	748,399	188,231	181,553	196,080	182,535	78	3.7%	State Total

Data from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, State Data Center, except Unemployment Rate from Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information

Introduction - A Longer View of Family Well-Being

Utah has enjoyed several periods of relative isolation from the rest of the nation. Geography, history and industrial age technology make this so. But Utah is no longer immune to the national social and economic trends now at work in this more technological age. Richard Ropers, Ph.D. and Alan Hamlin, Ph.D - both of Southern Utah University - have recently stated that Utah may be on the brink of a polarization of HAVE'S and HAVE-NOT'S:

> Despite continuous news media reports that portray Utah's economy as economically healthy, social and economic inequality in the state is growing at an alarming rate...national economic and social trends are creating a growing polarization of America's stratification system. Since 1980 Utah's population living in poverty has increased 30%. This dramatic increase in poverty is primarily the result of structural economic transformations in Utah's economy over the last decade and a half. Many higher paying jobs, especially in mining and manufacturing have been lost and replaced by low-paying jobs. ("Social and Economic Inequality in Utah," a chapter in *Utah in Demographic Perspective*, 2nd edition, forthcoming from Signature Books)

Postwar stability has changed. From the conclusion of World War II up to the mid-1970's the U.S. economy expanded and provided a better standard of living for most Americans. But since 1980 the economic fortunes of middle-class people in the U.S. have declined. This turnaround has been called "the Great U-Turn" by economists Bennett Harrison and Barry Bluestone (1988). The U-turn refers to an enormous drop in 1991 average wages compared to the 1960 wages for production and nonsupervisory workers - about 80% of the work force (when graphed, this line resembles a U-turn). The results have been serious economic and social problems for working families. Wages and low-skill or blue-collar production employment are down, while debt and housing costs are up.

Work has changed in the Information Age. This trend will not change soon. Because we are now in transition to a deindustrialized and information based economy, with production organized at a global scale, local workers must increasingly compete with robots, computer-strong co-workers or low-wage third-world workers. Those going on for post-high school training or college will more likely reap a harvest of good jobs than those who don't.

Family life is always tied to the economy. The relationship between families and the economy is a two-way street. A decline in wages and numbers of earners always affects the tax base. Ninety-five percent of the national population, especially those at the lower end of the economic scale, have seen their taxes increase since the 1980's. The very wealthy, however, have seen their taxes cut. "The tax rate for poverty level families increased from 1.8% of their income in 1979 to 10.8% in 1986. From 1987 to 1988 these families saw their taxes rise again, nearly 20 %...while the wealthiest 1% of the population had an average tax cut of $44,750 in 1988" (Feagin & Feagin, Building American Cities 1990, p. 59).

Macro context of society influences micro. Economic factors make up what has been called the "macro context" of social influences on families. These influences are large, complex and dynamic. Economics can influence and determine how families are organized, and hence the experience of children growing up within those families. The macro context consists of several interacting forces including government, ideology, social stratifications and attitudes about race, class and gender, and political institutions.

There are other factors in the macro level. Religious institutions and a global media business are also features of the macro context of society, affecting families and their desires or values and behaviors. Television has had a profound affect on neighbors' "front porch" knowledge of each other. Where people are strongly involved in communities, they have been able to compensate for negative influences and create more positive ways of relating.

State government is part of the macro level. In relation to families, a state is a macro level institution. A state government has an effect on units in the micro level, especially on poor families. Families need opportunities to be

responsibly interdependent. Family programs should emphasize prevention, not crisis management. To be effective, programs need to be integrated across boundaries of professional turf and human understanding. Services should be family-friendly; that is, readily accessible and community-based. Families usually devise ways to survive in spite of missing help, but some solutions can be hard on their kids.

The micro level affects families, too. The micro or smaller contexts can be impacted differently by the macro. For example, when an Anglo father is laid off from a job in manufacturing, members of his family may have some resilience - for reasons of race, personality or family strength - to pick up and go on. When a Navajo father loses mining income - in an already depressed county - this change may be much harder on his family, if they want to stay close to their land and culture. Many high paying jobs, especially in manufacturing or mining, have been lost in Utah; these have been replaced with lower-paid, less secure jobs in restaurants and hotels.

EFFECT ON POLICY: In sum, aspects of the macro level always affect the micro level. This effect becomes more noticeable when policies are based on unrealistic expectations. For example: in the 1862 Homestead Act, federal proclamations offered huge tracts of land, and changed family relationships by inviting people to move west. At first, many families were in fragile economic positions because early grants were based on seriously inadequate knowledge of western aridity.

Individual reactions to change will vary. Sometimes individuals organize to address larger issues that affect family life: the birth control movement, the labor movement, the women's movement, the current family movement, all are examples. Community health, injury or death prevention for children have been influenced by individual leaders of social movements. Such "movers and shakers" are heroes to some - including early 20th century reformers who fought to outlaw child labor. But they may also be seen by others as nuisances, people who stir up trouble or refuse to accept the status quo.

Current growth is a factor in Utah. This state is now undergoing a rapid increase in population. Many new families are moving in, with various abilities and needs. According to the Utah State Data Center's recent publication "Utah Data Guide" (July, 1995) employment growth is expected to decrease from 6.2 percent in 1994 to 5.0 percent in 1995. Utah ranks first in the nation for service employment growth (usually lower paying jobs), and seventh for manufacturing. This issue of the Data Guide also states, "Strong population growth, however, kept per capita personal income growth down...Utah continued to rank 48th in the nation in per capita personal income" (p. 9). Since poverty strikes unevenly across Utah's counties, much of it may be hidden from Wasatch Front eyes and ears. One result of Utah's younger population and larger households is that more dependents are supported by fewer economic resources than in 48 other states. Eighty-one percent of these dependents are children.

Risks of increased homelessness are growing. One serious outcome of current economic changes is an increase in family homelessness. When more children show up in Utah shelters, we have to ask why. Statistics show that there are two factors in the creation of the severe poverty leading to homelessness: structural changes in the economy, and several individual choices or decisions. Lower wages, at a time of rising costs for housing, result in less real income for many families. Many have accrued serious credit card debt to offset their loss of buying power. Some have difficulty keeping jobs; but many more working parents are using homeless shelters everywhere including Utah.

Parents' success or failure has deep impact on their kids. Children are deeply affected by their parents' stressors, successes and concerns. When parents cannot provide basic needs, kids are less likely to do well in school and in their preparation for life. If kids are homeless, they are without stable supports. They will be less able to assume full responsibilities as citizens. Children grow up seeing parents as models of how to be human; they pattern their families after the ones that nurture them.

UTAH KIDS COUNT believes that children are the business of all the people who are involved in their health, safety, education and security. We encourage all adults - parents, community decision-makers, employers, and legislative leaders - to be more accountable to children everywhere, to make sure that all kids count and grow well in all domains of life.

Cynthia B. Taylor, UTAH KIDS COUNT

Health

BACKGROUND: All children and youth need good nutrition and adequate health care in order to grow up as healthy, productive adults. Kids thrive physically and mentally when they receive early and regular preventive and curative care; participation in these efforts must be increased. This is one domain which most clearly shows the cost-effectiveness of primary preventive care: one dollar spent on whooping cough immunization can save six dollars; one dollar spent on measles/mumps/rubella immunization will save sixteen dollars in treatment costs during one childhood.

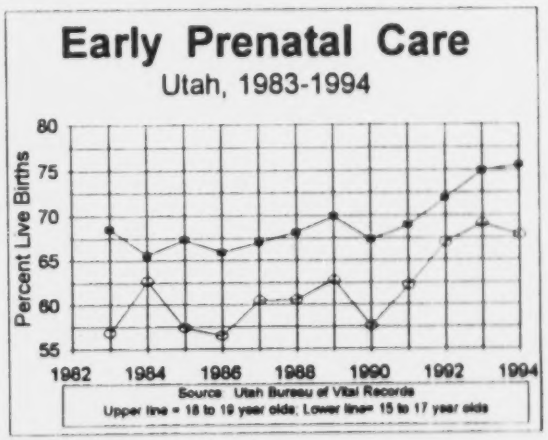
Utah has done a good job in the past few years with increased early prenatal care, resulting in a decrease in infant mortality and fewer low birth-weight infants. We need similar support for prevention in other childhood health needs, such as vision, hearing and dental services.

Caring adults must work to publicize and implement early and regular periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment programs. Families and communities have responsibilities to assure that children grow up with protection of their health, to become healthy adults. While there are many possible measures of good health for children, *UTAH KIDS COUNT has chosen six measures within the domain of health*. Each indicator or measure will be reported in subsequent data books to show trends over time, as possible.

MEASURES and DEFINITIONS:

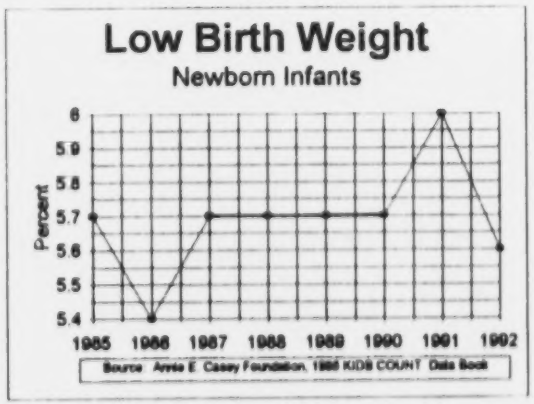
Percent Births with Early Prenatal Care

Research shows that women who do not receive early prenatal care are more likely to give birth to low birth weight babies (definition below) than women who do begin prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy. Mothers without health insurance are least likely to seek appropriate prenatal care. Among other serious effects, the lack of prenatal care contributes to pregnant women jeopardizing the health of their fetus by smoking, using drugs, drinking alcohol, or by not providing good nutrition for themselves during pregnancy. By contrast, infants born to mothers who were careful about early prenatal care have a higher likelihood of beginning life with a healthy start. County level data are reported with Health Measurements, on page 9, at end of this section.



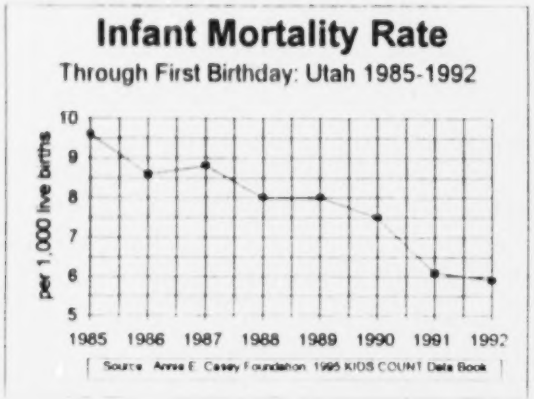
Percent Low Birth Weight Babies

This indicates the percent of all live births where the birth weight is under 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.) This is often an indirect measure of the quality of prenatal care which a mother received for herself and her unborn child. A newborn baby who weighs less than 5.5 pounds, enters life with a greater possibility of problems later in childhood. Early growth and abilities may be delayed - challenging the child's physical, mental and social development. Increasing percentages of low birth-weight babies suggests a decrease in the overall health status, or in access to prenatal care by mothers in their communities. Infant mortality caused by low birth weight is declining, yet it remains high among infants of color. Risk factors such as lack of prenatal care account for some of these cases. High rates persist when controlling for such variables as the mother's educational level, income and ethnicity.



Infant Mortality Rate

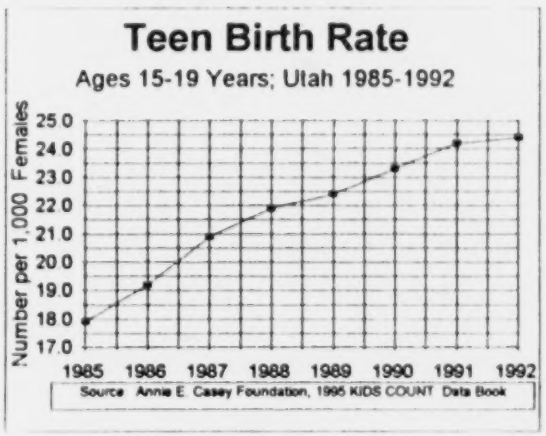
This is the number of deaths occurring to infants under one year of age, per 1,000 live births. The infant mortality rate has been declining in the U.S. and in Utah. This decrease reflects new advances in neonatal medical care and improved public education about the importance of early prenatal care, including awareness of the negative effects of smoking and drinking on an unborn child.



Data for the counties of Utah, reported on both Health Measurements pages 9 and 10, are by the place of residence, for the years 1989 through 1994. Rates are not computed for less than seven "vital" events (births, deaths, marriages, divorces, etc.). While Utah shows excellent improvement in Infant Mortality Rates as an indicator of child well-being, for some populations - especially poor families living in distressed neighborhoods - infant mortality rates are still quite high. Communities with high rates of poverty, illiteracy, unemployment or prison incarceration often endure high infant mortality rates; parents in these neighborhoods have more difficulty accessing medical care.

Birth Rate to Unmarried Teens (Ages 15-19)

This measure was chosen by the Casey Foundation, and focuses on unmarried teens. The rate is computed by dividing the total number of births to not married teens between 15 to 19 years by 1,000 females of that age. The graph to the above right shows the trend of this indicator, chosen and tracked for eight years by the Casey Foundation in their national KIDS COUNT data books. Births to teens under 15 years have been omitted in the count, since less than five percent of births occurred to young women of that age. The graph shows that Utah has had a 25% increase in births to unmarried teens between 1985 and 1992, the data of the last KIDS COUNT data book.



Percent Births to Women 15 to 19 years

This measure was chosen without regard to the marital status of the adolescent mother, as infants born to young mothers are subject to high risk for serious health conditions and other birth outcomes, whether or not they are married. Infants born to adolescent mothers less than 20 years of age tend to have more problems than those born to women over 20 years of age, e.g. low birth weight, birth defects or other high-risk conditions. In fact, the younger the age of the mother, the greater the probability of an infant being born at risk for a serious health problem.

The number of births to adolescents under 15 years has been increasing in Utah over the past few years. There were 34 in 1988, and 48 in 1994. These have been omitted from percent calculations as the frequencies are relatively small and statistically unreliable at the county level. However, births to younger adolescents are of concern to most health professionals and communities, as these babies are at the highest risk for poor pregnancy outcomes compared with all other women - up through age 40.

Births to adolescent mothers - married or unmarried - are of concern for several reasons. Child poverty is one of them; effect on physical and mental health are also significant. Marital status of the mother at the time of birth does not necessarily protect a teen mother or her child(ren) from poverty, especially if she has not graduated from high school or developed

employable skills for above minimum wage employment. An adult with no post-high school education will have increased difficulty in today's labor market. Depending on the regularity and amount of economic support from the father of her children, a young mother may not stay in school long enough to create a satisfying career that will support her family. According to the Utah Office of Recovery Services (DHS), 98,893 Utah families requested help with child support collection in 1994; fewer than half (47%) who have court orders for child support are actually receiving that financial support (as of 7/1/95). See page 22 for more on the effect of divorces on children.

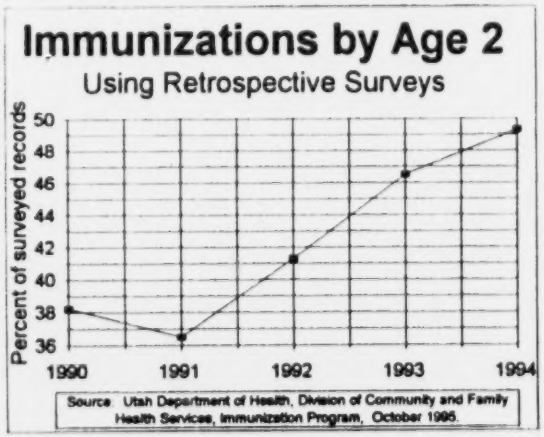
Although adolescent females are reaching the peak of child-bearing capacity, it is our position that many are not ready emotionally, socially or financially to be mothers at this stage of their lives, whether married or unmarried.

Percent Children Immunized By Age Two

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to be adequately immunized a toddler must have received four doses of DTP (diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis), three doses of OPV (oral polio vaccine) and one dose of MMR (measles, mumps and rubella).

In 1994 a retrospective survey of immunization records found that only 49.3% of children entering kindergarten in Utah had been adequately immunized by age two. Although this compares favorably to the 46.5% result for 1993, the national goal is for 90% of all two year olds to be adequately immunized. Utah law requires that children under five who attend licensed child care must also be vaccinated against HIB (Hemophilus Influenza, type B).

Preschool age children are those at highest risk for vaccine preventable diseases. Efforts have begun to increase the state levels of immunization, focusing on: maternal education in hospitals, follow-up of children identified as high-risk, active tracking and recall of children who miss return appointments for immunizations, extended clinic hours, and mobile immunization services. In 1994 a National Immunization Survey conducted by the CDC found that Utah has achieved adequate immunization levels for approximately 70% of two year old children. Data were provided by the Utah Department of Health, Immunization Program.



UTAH KIDS COUNT Children of Color Task Group urges all health districts to collect data on all measures of child health by race/ethnicity and gender. Furthermore, it recommends that all health data collectors establish updated, standardized, consistent categories for race/ethnicity so data reported will be more accurate, sensitive and useful for purposes of comparison between groups.

Community leaders among people of color in Utah want to be involved in helping to overcome any cultural barriers to preventive health for children, to assure that children of color get a healthy start. Future issues of this book will seek to report health data by race & ethnicity as well as by county.

Percent Children Eligible for School Meals

Local school districts have been mandated by federal law to collect this count of kids. Traditionally this has been a measure of poverty, since household income is used to determine whether a child will receive a reduced-price or free meal (school lunch and breakfast, where available). The meals must meet specific federal nutrition requirements.

UTAH KIDS COUNT presents this measure in the health domain because increasing numbers of low-income children depend on school meals for more than half their daily nutritional intake (1994 Tufts University School of Nutrition).

Children in poor families are more likely than other children to return from schools to homes where kitchen cupboards and refrigerators stand empty, especially during the last ten days or two weeks of each month. Studies have shown that chronic hunger has long-lasting effects on physical and cognitive development. Hungry children often have a hard time staying motivated to pay attention in class or to get excited about learning.

Hunger and poor nutrition also take a toll on a child's ability to resist colds, flu, and other infectious diseases. Prevention of many serious problems - anemia, for example - has been made possible through early childhood nutrition; this has been demonstrated nationwide by the Women, Infants & Children Special Supplemental Food Programs (WIC). For this reason, data on WIC are included on page 10.

The need for more studies of the suspected relationships between key educational problems, such as school dropouts or school failure, and the health and nutritional status of poor children has been recognized. Future issues of this data book will report on these studies as they are made public.

We also need to know the numbers and condition of children who are actually receiving free and reduced meals in Utah, not merely numbers of those who are eligible.

Health Measurements

Births	Prenatal Care			Low Birthweight Babies			Infant Mortality		
1994 Total Births	Number w/care in 1st trimester	% of Births w/care in 1st trimester	Rank Best to Worst	Number of Low Birthweight Babies	% of Births that are Low Birthweight Babies	Rank Best to Worst	1994 Deaths to Infants	1994 Rates	County
91	62	68.1	28	4	4.4	8	1	--	Beaver
684	565	82.6	13	39	6.1	20	6	--	Box Elder
1,771	1,594	90.0	1	78	4.8	10	9	5.1	Cache
289	224	77.5	22	12	4.8	10	2	--	Carbon
12	9	75.0	25	0	0.0	1	0	--	Daggett
3,980	3,565	89.6	3	219	5.7	14	15	3.8	Davis
246	221	89.8	2	26	10.6	28	2	--	Duchesne
146	121	82.9	11	6	4.1	6	0	--	Emery
61	49	80.3	17	6	11.5	29	1	--	Garfield
120	92	76.7	23	7	5.8	16	1	--	Grand
557	488	87.6	7	23	4.3	7	2	--	Iron
126	96	76.2	24	5	4.0	5	0	--	Juab
86	67	77.9	20	5	5.8	16	0	--	Kane
192	149	77.6	21	7	3.6	4	1	--	Millard
91	79	86.8	8	5	5.5	13	1	--	Morgan
15	11	73.3	27	0	0.0	1	0	--	Piute
24	18	75.0	25	0	0.0	1	0	--	Rich
15,379	12,708	82.6	12	890	6.3	22	102	6.6	Salt Lake
282	188	66.7	29	16	6.0	19	2	--	San Juan
299	244	81.6	15	26	9.0	27	1	--	Sanpete
258	211	81.8	14	14	5.8	16	3	--	Sevier
359	318	88.6	5	28	7.8	25	3	--	Summit
521	417	80.0	18	41	7.9	26	0	--	Tooele
413	327	79.2	19	25	6.1	20	5	--	Uintah
7,585	6,781	89.4	4	380	5.0	12	41	5.4	Utah
221	195	88.2	6	15	6.8	24	1	--	Wasatch
1,225	987	80.6	16	46	4.4	8	9	7.3	Washington
35	30	85.7	10	2	5.7	14	0	--	Wayne
3,203	2,760	86.2	9	208	6.5	23	26	8.1	Weber
38,271	32,576	85.1%		2,083	5.9%		234	6.1	State

Data are provisional for 1994, provided by Utah Bureau of Vital Records
-- = not calculated (rates were not calculated when fewer than 7 events occurred)

Health Measurements

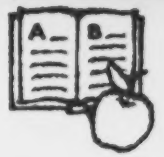
County	Teenage Pregnancy: 1994 Births to Women by Age: Under 15	15-17	18-19	Total Births to Females < 20	Percentages: % of Births to Females < 20	Rank Best to Worst	Rates: 1989-1994 Rate per 1000 Females	Rank Best to Worst	WIC Participation: Totals for Utah 10/1/94 to 9/30/95: Women	Infants	Children	School Meals: Fall 1994: % of Students Eligible for Free and Reduced Price Meals: Breakfast	Lunch
Beaver	0	5	7	12	13.2	14	52.8	19	40	40	81	--	33.1
Box Elder	0	29	64	93	13.6	17	46.5	14	199	214	476	7.4	26.2
Cache	2	38	87	127	7.2	2	34.0	7	817	750	1,401	8.2	27.8
Carbon	2	22	41	65	22.5	29	54.2	21	153	170	344	33.8	35.5
Daggett	0	0	1	1	8.3	5	--	--	0	2	6	34.0	34.0
Davis	2	133	234	369	9.3	6	37.6	8	917	1,036	2,116	19.2	20.5
Duchesne	0	10	31	41	16.7	21	59.7	24	31	34	66	43.0	43.0
Emery	0	11	14	25	17.1	23	52.9	20	86	83	227	20.2	34.1
Garfield	0	4	9	13	21.3	28	56.9	22	38	37	91	43.0	43.0
Grand	2	11	10	23	19.2	27	58.6	23	61	68	150	29.9	36.9
Iron	0	25	39	64	11.5	12	45.1	13	321	323	590	36.0	36.0
Juab	0	4	6	10	7.9	4	44.0	12	52	51	116	16.9	40.1
Kane	0	3	6	9	10.5	9	47.5	15	66	42	125	28.5	38.0
Millard	0	6	14	20	10.4	7	40.5	9	77	90	251	16.8	42.5
Morgan	0	6	6	12	13.2	14	27.5	3	14	21	49	--	19.6
Piute	0	0	2	2	13.3	16	22.2	2	14	12	22	65.7	65.7
Rich	0	1	3	4	16.7	21	22.1	1	5	9	19	48.8	48.8
Salt Lake	18	576	1,031	1,625	10.6	10	51.7	17	4,831	5,207	9,318	13.3	26.2
San Juan	2	9	34	45	16.0	19	70.4	28	82	100	268	57.0	64.9
Sanpete	0	8	44	52	17.4	24	32.2	5	162	153	438	22.7	45.4
Sevier	0	14	28	42	16.3	20	52.2	18	135	130	325	--	42.3
Summit	0	5	13	18	5.0	1	28.5	4	63	87	197	--	10.9
Tooele	1	50	48	99	19.0	26	67.0	26	275	303	657	33.7	34.0
Uintah	1	24	47	72	17.4	24	69.3	27	302	341	784	12.3	40.1
Utah	7	182	366	555	7.3	3	32.9	6	2,333	2,209	4,182	21.4	29.5
Wasatch	3	11	9	23	10.4	7	48.5	16	92	110	205	9.6	20.8
Washington	1	48	112	161	13.1	13	41.6	10	630	594	1,406	13.1	21.4
Wayne	0	1	3	4	11.4	11	41.9	11	20	21	48	--	57.1
Weber	7	197	302	506	15.8	18	66.5	25	1,287	1,346	2,455	19.1	32.1
State	48	1,433	2,611	4,092	10.7%		46.3		13,103	13,583	26,413	16.9%	28.1%

Pregnancy data are provisional for 1994, provided by Utah Bureau of Vital Records
-- = no program or not calculated (rates were not calculated when fewer than 7 events occurred)

WIC Data provided by Community and Family Health Services, Utah Department of Health

School meals data from Office of Finance and Statistics, Utah State Office of Education

Education



BACKGROUND: All children depend for their essential well-being upon learning and mastering the world. They thrive when they receive an education matched to their intellectual, physical and emotional ability. Improving education to elevate the potential of all children has been a desire of every generation in our nation. As the period of preparation for careers increases and childhood dependency grows longer, society must pay attention to more aspects of learning. We want all our children to experience school as a place where they are cherished and can grow wisely. Thus, schools must receive more public and private support to meet the increasing needs of all students and their families.

As representatives of UTAH KIDS COUNT travelled the state, listening to Utahns in every county, voices for change in the education domain were loud and clear: high quality education must become a priority for all our children. In this Information Age, economic security for young adults, and the families they will form, depends upon gaining employable skills - fine-tuned for a technological society. Those who drop out of school before they are prepared for life will create for themselves many extra burdens, including the potential for future homelessness and other social problems.

How are Utah students doing? The 1994 Accountability Report of the Utah Statewide Testing Program (Utah Office of Education), shows fifth graders ranking better than average in Math, Science and Total Basic Battery (which includes Mathematics, Reading and Language). Elementary school class size appears to make a difference in elementary (5th) grade test scores, when the number of pupils is below 20. We must watch this factor and others over time and make decisions that will affect improvement in test scores.

UTAH KIDS COUNT chose to use *four measures of success in the education domain.* These will be tracked and reported annually.

MEASURES and DEFINITIONS:

Current Expenditures Per Pupil

This is the final 1993-1994 adjusted current expenditures divided by the enrollment. Adjusted current expenditures does not include capital outlay or debt service, but it does include the budget of the Office of Education.

Even though some counties may be doing well, the state ranks very low when compared to other states in per pupil expenditures. In fact, Utah is at the bottom of the heap in comparison to all other U.S. states! Utah spends the least amount of money per pupil. This must change if we are to bring all youth into better employment in the Information Age.

Comparative Expenditures per Pupil, 1993-1994 for Western States

Arizona	$3,941
California	$4,571
Colorado	$4,910
Idaho	$3,718
Montana	$5,057
Nevada	$4,612
New Mexico	$4,482
Oregon	$5,600
Washington	$5,274
Wyoming	$5,534
Utah	**$3,261**

Average Class Size

This is measured by pupil/teacher ratios; in other words, 1994 fall enrollment divided by the full-time equivalent number of classroom teachers serving those students. These data are reported by the Utah State Office of Education, School Finance and Statistics. Utah has some of the highest classroom ratios in the nation.

Students today must master many complex skills once taught in post-secondary schools, before they finish high school. Bright, quick students can be bored when their teacher slows down to the pace of the "average" students. And slower students can easily be left behind in crowded classrooms. One teacher for every 23 students is the state average for first through third grades; that's a lot of eager, young minds and bodies for one adult to guide! When a teacher is responsible for too many students, the quantity and quality of attention received by each child may be diminished.

Licensed child care centers in Utah have established limitations of 15 four-year olds with one adult care giver, and 20 five-year olds with one adult care giver. However, once these preschoolers go to public kindergarten, the schools in Iron, Kane, Utah, and Uintah Counties average more than 24 busy, curious kindergartners assigned to one teacher.

By contrast in Wayne, Rich, Tooele and Piute Counties, five year olds are in classrooms with 13 to 16 pupils per teacher. See the Education Measurements page 14, where data are shown by grade clusters: Kindergarten, Grades 1-3, Grades 4-6, and Grades 7-12.

For grades 1-3, Washington County has the most crowded classrooms (25 students per teacher); Davis County runs a close second (24.8). The smallest, lowest class sizes for first through third grades are in Piute (13 pupils per teacher), Tooele (16.1), and San Juan Counties.

For grades 4-6, Washington again is the county with the highest ratio of pupils per teacher (32.3). Box Elder and Wasatch are tied for second most crowded (28.9); the next highest number of pupils per teacher is held by Davis County (28.6). Wayne, San Juan, and Rich Counties have the lowest class sizes (16 to 22 pupils) for fourth through sixth grades.

In the upper grades (7-12), Davis County moves into last place with the highest average of students per classroom (25.2) ; Washington is now second to last (24.5); Utah County moves into third most crowded (24.1). Test scores in counties with multiple school districts cannot be averaged, since percentiles cannot be averaged.

Daggett (11.7), San Juan (12.6), and Wayne (13.8) counties provide the least crowded classrooms during the high school years. In Wayne County test scores are still strong - above average - through the high school years. In Daggett and San Juan, the scores are lower. Cultural and/or language barriers may interfere with test scores in these counties.

Percent Dropouts for Grades 10 through 12

This is the percentage of students who drop out of school during a specific one-year period. It is based on the final 1993-1994 number of dropouts in those grades divided by the fall 1993-1994 enrollment for those three grades.

Every school district in Utah collects its own dropout data, and these are not tied to funding. Drop out data are not uniformly collected or reported. It appears that some districts do not count or report all their dropouts by the same definition. Our knowledge of teen well-being in Utah could be vastly improved by a standardized system of tracking and reporting.

In the state of Utah, almost 4,000 teens in 10th through 12th grades dropped out of high school in the 1993-1994 school year. In fact, over 1,600 of these teens were in 12th grade when they dropped out. So close, and yet they let go of this important goal for their lives! Some school districts actively pursue dropouts, working to find and reintegrate them; but not all do.

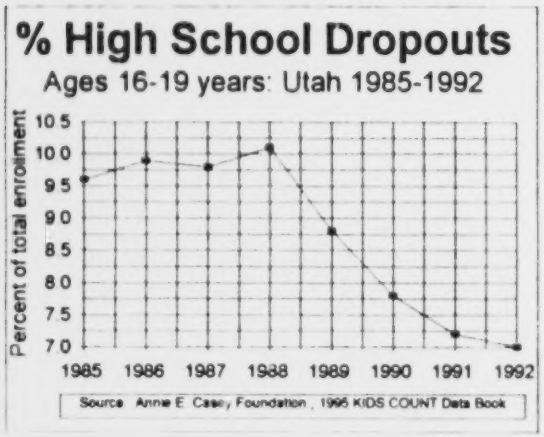
A county by county analysis shows that Grand County had the highest percentage of dropouts (10%), with Sevier coming in next (7.4%) and Davis and Salt Lake Counties sharing 3rd worst place (5.4%). Iron County holds fifth worst place; percentage of dropouts there was 4.9. All of these kids are more likely to struggle in finding the kind of jobs that will support families. Beaver, Garfield, Rich and Wayne counties show Utah's best retention of high school students.

Of concern to many educators is an increasing drop-out pattern between Middle School and High School. In 1994, there were 35,904 Utah pupils tested in 8th grade and 26,608 who tested again in 11th grade. This represents a 20% difference! Where are these 7,296 kids? Not all of them could have transferred, but not all can be counted as "dropouts."

There are striking differences in earning power between those who graduate from high school and those who do not. Without a high school diploma (or equivalent) most young adults do not go on to college or some technical training. They are then often ineligible for the kind of employment that will lead to sustainable incomes over a lifetime.

Being out of work can contribute to mental and physical depression, sometimes leading to substance abuse, crime or other social

problems. The waste of young minds is a serious problem for any community. UTAH KIDS COUNT urges every community to do everything possible to help kids graduate and succeed in becoming healthy, informed adults.



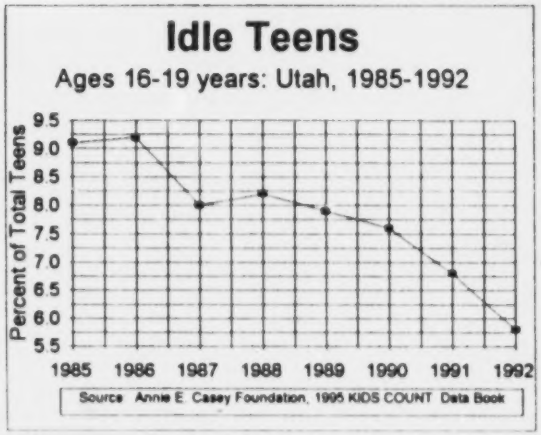
Both graphs on this page shows trends in Utah reported by the Casey Foundation. State trends are based on available, but partial data. These reveal an increase in high school dropouts from 1985 to 1988, up to ten percent in 1988, the peak year. By 1992, Utah showed a decrease in the dropout rate to 7.0%. This improvement might have been due to improved efforts of some high schools to hold students. It could also reflect more active recruitment efforts of alternative high schools where more options are offered to teenagers who do not aim for college.

Percent of Teens Not in School or Working

This is a Casey Foundation indicator, showing the Current Population Survey (CPS) data from 1985 to 1992 of teens who have dropped out of high school. This measure reveals the percentage of all teens (no matter their grade level) between 16 to 19 years who are not enrolled in school and are not employed. Those on missions are counted as employed. This measure is based upon a 12 month (CPS) file of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Each month the CPS asks respondents in 60,000 households nation-wide about their labor force and educational activities. Based on this survey, percentages of teens not enrolled in school and not working are calculated.

Data from the Current Population Survey is never available at the county level. Therefore, county figures reported, in Table III on the last page of the Education section, are from the 1990 Census. In 1985, 9.6 % of all 16 to 19 year olds in Utah were high school drop outs.

For 1993, 90% of Utah adults - age 25 and over - held high school diplomas; by age 25, nearly everyone who is going to obtain a high school diploma or GED has done so (Current Population Report (Series P20-476) *Educational Attainment in the US, March 1993*). Data for the last three years show an increase in percentages of high school dropouts, with unemployment, especially for youth of color.



Dropping out of high school should not become a moral issue; not every young person will be permanently harmed by this decision. Some young minds soar by accelerating into their creative interests or capacities through specialized education, completing their Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED) along the way.

However, it is of interest to UTAH KIDS COUNT that directors of homeless shelters use drop-out data to predict shelter needs in five to ten years. They see many struggling and emotionally broken 30 or 40 year old "adolescents" who have not completed high school, and who need strong interventions to refit them for employment. Shelter directors also see strong associations among lack of high school education, single-parenting and homelessness. See the Economic Security Section, page 20 for a table of unemployment data for youth of color.

Education Measurements

County	Average Class Size, Fall 1994								Current Expenditures $ Per Pupil		Dropouts (Grade 10-12)				Idle Teens % in 1990	
	Kinder-garten	Rank Best to Worst	Grades 1-3	Rank Best to Worst	Grades 4-6	Rank Best to Worst	Grades 7-12	Rank Best to Worst		Rank Best to Worst	1993-94 Fall Enrollment	Final 1993-94 Dropouts	Dropout Rate	Rank Best to Worst		Rank Best to Worst
Beaver	20.4	12	18.5	7	20.4	7	21.8	19	$3,370	19	330	1	0.3	4	7.8	16
Box Elder	21.9	18	22.0	19	28.9	27	22.8	23	3,021	26	2,331	57	2.4	13	7.5	13
Cache	20.8	13	20.7	14	24.1	14	23.1	25	3,181	22	4,126	38	0.9	6	5.6	9
Carbon	22.5	19	23.0	22	26.1	20	22.0	21	3,664	13	1,181	42	3.6	20	8.8	19
Daggett	19.3	9	18.9	9	19.2	4	11.7	1	8,294	1	40	1	2.5	14	0.0	1
Davis	23.0	20	24.8	28	28.6	26	25.2	29	3,031	27	12,111	657	5.4	27	9.9	23
Duchesne	19.4	10	20.2	12	25.2	17	21.0	15	3,457	18	1,058	47	4.4	24	10.0	24
Emery	21.6	16	17.9	6	22.1	10	20.5	14	3,679	9	765	32	4.2	23	11.1	27
Garfield	16.7	7	19.2	10	20.9	9	17.3	7	4,285	6	251	0	0.0	1	6.6	11
Grand	16.5	6	18.8	8	20.9	8	16.0	4	3,784	11	349	35	10.0	29	3.5	2
Iron	24.7	29	24.2	27	27.3	24	23.0	24	3,287	24	1,273	62	4.9	25	4.2	3
Juab	21.9	17	20.9	15	24.0	13	21.1	16	3,826	14	408	8	2.0	10	5.1	7
Kane	24.2	27	21.6	18	24.7	16	18.5	9	4,078	8	312	9	2.9	16	11.4	28
Millard	21.2	15	20.4	13	25.3	18	19.2	12	3,954	7	855	18	2.1	11	4.7	6
Morgan	20.2	11	22.9	21	27.4	25	20.0	13	3,203	23	464	9	1.9	9	4.5	5
Piute	15.8	4	13.0	1	22.6	11	16.5	6	6,152	2	122	1	0.8	5	9.7	22
Rich	14.7	2	17.1	5	18.9	3	16.3	5	4,743	5	131	0	0.0	1	7.4	12
Salt Lake	23.9	25	22.2	20	24.3	15	23.8	26	3,249	21	37,835	2,048	5.4	26	8.0	17
San Juan	16.5	5	16.3	3	17.3	2	12.6	2	5,482	3	753	29	3.9	21	10.9	25
Sanpete	23.1	22	21.5	16	22.6	12	21.2	17	3,395	17	1,237	15	1.2	7	8.3	18
Sevier	19.0	8	21.5	17	26.1	19	21.3	18	3,649	12	1,225	90	7.3	28	7.6	14
Summit	20.8	14	19.5	11	20.4	6	18.0	8	3,940	10	993	35	3.5	18	9.4	20
Tooele	15.6	3	16.1	2	19.8	5	19.2	11	3,562	16	1,560	45	2.9	16	10.9	26
Uintah	24.3	28	23.2	23	26.4	21	18.6	10	3,506	15	1,246	51	4.1	22	14.7	29
Utah	24.2	26	23.7	26	26.6	22	24.1	27	3,152	25	16,420	253	1.5	8	7.7	15
Wasatch	23.4	24	23.6	24	28.9	28	21.9	20	3,047	28	730	17	2.3	12	5.3	8
Washington	23.1	21	25.0	29	32.3	29	24.5	28	2,810	29	3,379	97	2.9	15	4.2	4
Wayne	13.0	1	16.4	4	16.0	1	13.8	3	4,999	4	148	0	0.0	1	5.6	10
Weber	23.2	23	23.6	25	26.9	23	22.4	22	3,322	20	8,334	295	3.5	19	9.7	21
State average	22.9		22.5		25.5		23.0		$3,261		99,985	3,992	3.99%		8.1%	
									U.S. =$5,291							

All Education data comes from the Utah State Office of Education, School Finance and Statistics

% Idle Teens (not in school and not working) comes from the Bureau of the Census, 1990

Safety

Concern for child safety matters greatly for parents. Safety is also an ongoing concern for the communities in which families raise their children. It is up to adults to assure child safety and protection. This may require decisions not faced by parents just a few years ago, such as child auto seats, doing background checks on babysitters, or limiting hours of television.

Statewide policies addressing injury prevention are one example of how society has cared for children. Laws try to prevent child injuries caused by lead poisoning, traffic accidents or misuse of firearms, and by abuse anywhere in their lives. We have crossing guards to help them reach school safely. Schools work to make children and parents street wise and more cautious about crossing during bad weather. Public service announcements are aired to educate care givers about not leaving children alone in bathtubs. Fire departments want smoke alarms mandated in low-income, over-crowded, run-down buildings where unsafe heating sources cause injury and death to over 12,000 children in our nation yearly.

Children are not little adults; they are literal minded and impulsive. Their hearing and vision differ from adults'; their experience is limited; their judgement is different. UTAH KIDS COUNT has chosen *four indicators of how well we protect our children from harm*. As with the other indicators, we will create graphs as possible and track the progress of children in Utah across future years.

MEASURES and DEFINITIONS:

Child Abuse: Referrals and Victims

These are children whose lives and growth have been interrupted by someone with the intent to hurt them. Reported and substantiated cases represent *crimes*, which are handled in various ways including protective custody for the child when necessary. Data are reported for calendar year 1994 by the Division of Family Services, of the Utah Department of Human Services, giving investigations completed & substantiated.

The greatest safety hazards in children's lives are often uninformed or unfeeling parents, adult family members and/or siblings who have been given some responsibility for child care. In fact, more child abuse occurs at home than anywhere else. Education in child development is rightly a requirement for quality child care, and should also be a requirement for parenting.

Recent prevention campaigns have raised awareness that too many little ones crying in pain or hunger have been seriously injured and killed from shaking by an adult (usually male) who did not comprehend the fragile nature of the child's body. Some injuries reported as "falls" have been found to be caused by physical punishment which exceeds a small body's endurance. Parenting is frequently frustrating; but good parenting is protective.

The fact of different ratios in abuse reports by Utah regional offices deserves greater study. There may be different attitudes among clinic workers about abuse, or other local factors which affect reports. Data collection methods are now changing, by federal mandate.

Adults can learn safe, non-violent ways of disciplining children, using appropriate punishments rather than physical blows or cruel actions and words. Research on upper elementary and middle school bullying (peer level abuse) - which almost always occurs out of adult sight - shows a relationship between harsh physical punishment or cruel treatment at home and bullying and aggressive behaviors toward other children in the community.

According to Utah Division of Family Services, in 1994 there were 17,125 investigations for child abuse in Utah; ten years ago there were 8,945. From these 17,125 investigations, there were 10,430 substantiated victims of whom 22.3% suffered physical abuse, 19.0% sexual abuse, 18.9% endured physical neglect and 14.17%, emotional maltreatment. Utah should mourn the loss of each child's full capacity.

Child Death Rates

This measure shows the number of deaths from all causes to children ages 1 to 14 years, per 100,000 children. This includes death from disease, homicide, suicide, drowning, falls, and accidents of all kinds.

Motor vehicle related fatalities are the leading cause of child death in Utah. Most states require that all children be properly restrained in protective seatbelts while riding in cars or trucks; not Utah. While it appears that total child deaths have been declining over the past few years, motor vehicle/pedestrian deaths are on the rise. Despite improvements in hospital trauma care, auto safety and injury prevention, too many children are still at risk for early death. Many unintentional injuries to children are preventable through greater awareness and caution at home and in the community.

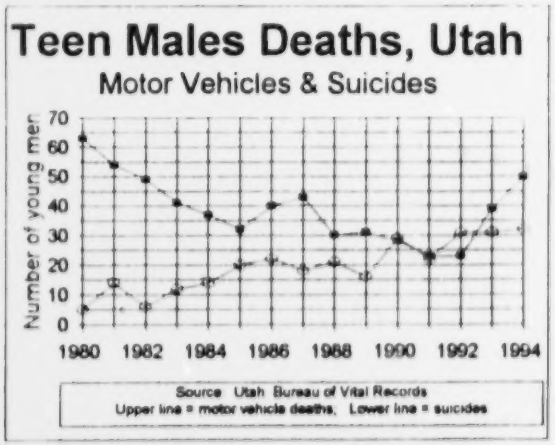
Casey trend data (graphed below) for Utah show some variation, between 25 and 35 deaths per 100,000 kids each year from 1985 to 1992. Utah data for this indicator are given the Safety Measurements page at the end of the section.

Teen Violent Death Rate

This is a measure of deaths from violent sources, (defined as motor vehicle, suicide, homicide and other preventable deaths) for teens between ages 15 and 19 years, per 100,000 population in this age group. The first graph is of data reported by the Casey Foundation for all teen violent deaths. The second graph, which compares two types of teen male violent deaths - motor vehicle and suicide - are from data reported by the Utah Bureau of Vital Records, 1980-1994. Data for 1993 and 1994 are provisional.

Among young males (15 -19 years) in Utah who die, 80% die violently. From 1991 to 1994, 76% of all violent deaths to these young men were due to motor vehicles and suicides. It appears that suicide has become the second leading cause of violent death to young males in Utah, accounting for about 36% of all teen violent deaths during this period. Automobile fatalities accounted for the other 40% during the same time. Other causes - such as injuries with bicycles, water transportation, drownings, aircraft - make up 14% of these deaths. Homicide accounts for 6% and the remaining 4% are from undetermined causes (unknown if accidental or purposely inflicted).

Among adults in Utah, the rate of suicide has also risen since 1980, but not as sharply as for teenage males. These trends are troubling. While violent death rates to all teens in Utah have decreased through 1992 (1st graph), rates for male teen suicide have increased (2nd graph). While it is impossible to know what caused each young man to chose death, the question "why?" must be asked about the aggregate. What must change for all young men to choose life despite their inner conflicts?



Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rates

This is a look at Utah youths less than 18 years of age who were arrested for homicide (non-negligent murder), manslaughter (negligent), forcible rape, robbery or aggravated assault. Rates presented for the state are the number of youths arrested for violent crime per 100,000 youths between the ages of 10-17.

County level data are reported with other data on page 18. Figures show the number of violent crime arrests in 1994. An individual arrested for multiple offenses at one time is enumerated only for the most serious offense. If an individual is arrested a second time during the year he or she is again counted, but only for the most serious offense.

Looking at county totals at the end of this section, we see that in 1994, there were 1,062 juvenile arrests in Utah. Of these, 791 were for aggravated assault, 201 for robbery. There were 14 juvenile arrests for manslaughter (negligent) and murder (non-negligent), and 55 arrests for forcible rape. There were 201 juvenile arrests for robbery and 791, for aggravated assault. By comparison, there were 73 adult arrests for murder (60) and manslaughter (13), 218 for robberies, 126 for rapes, and 1,257 for aggravated assaults.

Nearly 88% of all 1994 juvenile arrests were of youth 13 to 17 yrs.; only 12% of arrests were made of persons under 13 years.

Slightly more than half of all juvenile crimes occurred in Salt Lake County; but almost half of the population of the state resides in that county. It is may also be that teens residing in other counties travel into Salt Lake City to meet with other teens - either alone or in gangs - then commit crimes and are arrested there.

Many Utahns are concerned about rising youth violence. THE UTAH AGENDA FOR CHILDREN - listing Utahns' priorities for children - was generated in meetings around the state; it expresses the conviction that we can create safe, healthy, secure childhoods for all our children. It is especially clear that Utah must create full and equal opportunity for children and youth of non-Caucasian heritage.

Considering current documentation and reports on racial disproportionality of teen crime arrests and detention, the Children of Color Task Group has recommended that key decision makers be identified - those who actually have influence on the way information is collected for youth arrested for criminal activity - and that these leaders be asked to focus staff time on increasing awareness of the needs of children of color.

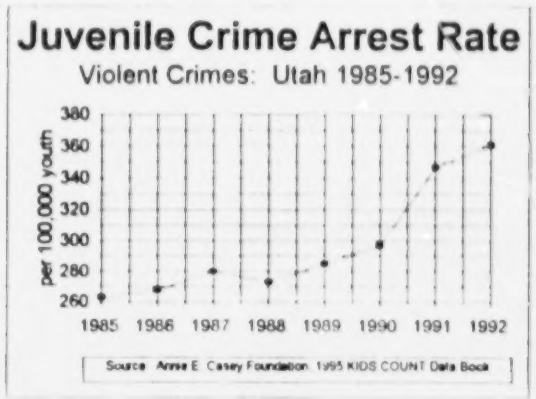
It is also recommended that for better data, understanding and prevention, an age cohort should be tracked over time (for more than a decade), using more accurate and contemporary categories for race and ethnicity.

Figures reported in the trend graph below are derived from Casey Foundation analysis of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1984 to 1993*. The figures represent three-year averages. For example, the figure for 1992 represents the average from 1991 through 1993. The graph shows an increase of 38% over these eight years. Crime rates have been adjusted for growth in population, yet we are still seeing steady increases in numbers of teens in trouble.

UTAH JUVENILE VIOLENT CRIME ARRESTS, 1994

CRIME x AGE	0-9	10-12	13-14	15	16	17	Total < 18
Murder	0	1	0	1	4	2	8
Manslaughter	0	0	1	2	2	1	6
Forcible Rape	0	5	22	7	7	14	55
Robbery	2	20	46	39	46	48	201
Aggravated Assault	23	92	208	163	137	168	791
Total	25	118	277	212	196	233	1,061

1994 Total Utah Arrests	1,061
1990 Census Population, 10-17 yrs.	274,107
Arrest Rate in 1994	387
Arrest Rate in 1985	263



Safety Measurements

County	Child Abuse and Neglect		Deaths to Children Ages 1-14		Juvenile Violent Crime	
	Substantiated Victims	Investigations	1994 Number	1989-94 Rates per 100,000 children	1994 Arrests	Rank Best to Worst
Beaver	19	33	1	--	1	
Box Elder	192	239	3	47.1	13	20
Cache	163	274	2	19.7	2	9
Carbon	179	302	1	42.6	6	15
Daggett	reports w/ Uintah		0	--	0	1
Davis	630	1,165	17	30.6	110	27
Duchesne	136	252	4	53.1	14	21
Emery	77	97	2	47.5	0	1
Garfield	10	16	0	--	0	1
Grand	97	132	0	--	9	17
Iron	260	371	3	40.7	17	23
Juab	reports w/ Utah		0	63.9	4	11
Kane	4	26	0	--	5	12
Millard	58	77	2	33.9	0	1
Morgan	reports w/ Weber		0	--	7	16
Piute	reports w/ Garfield		1	--	0	1
Rich	reports w/ Cache		1	--	3	10
Salt Lake	5,163	8,843	53	26.1	598	29
San Juan	130	187	4	66.7	1	6
Sanpete	113	117	2	55.4	9	17
Sevier	176	167	1	--	10	19
Summit	39	77	1	31.7	5	12
Tooele	241	401	1	22.0	19	24
Uintah	161	403	1	35.8	14	21
Utah	1,311	1,692	24	28.8	67	26
Wasatch	14	24	1	--	5	12
Washington	212	364	6	36.9	23	25
Wayne	15	18	0	--	1	6
Weber	1,030	1,848	12	25.5	118	28
State Total	10,430	17,125	143	29.1	1,061	

Child Abuse data is from the Utah Dept of Human Service, Division of Family Services; Child Death data is from the Utah Bureau of Vital Records; Juvenile Violent Crime data is from the Utah Dept of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Identification

For greater understanding of the Utah Juvenile Justice system, read Utah Children's 1995 publication *"Policy & Progress: A Study of Policy Formation in the Utah Juvenile Justice System."* See also *"Racial Disproportionality in the Utah Juvenile Justice System"* published in 1995 by the Utah Board of Juvenile Justice, Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.

But what can ordinary people do? Several sources continue to advise solutions that ask people to get involved in local neighborhood organizing. Citizens are beginning to mobilize in response to youth violence in Utah. In several communities, parents and teachers have taken the lead on working together, based on the philosophy that each person really can make a difference. They are reaching out to work with organizations such as community councils, local newspapers, civic and church groups, recreation and youth programs, the local PTA, senior citizens groups, and latchkey programs. Private industry and business leaders are also getting involved. It is apparent to UTAH KIDS COUNT that a community spirit is now reviving in response to this challenge.

One approach to meeting local needs has been offered in a "Neighborhood Action Guide" through KUED-7 (call 585-LINK) to help neighbors identify resources and create action plans that are collaborative, local and effective. Many Utahns are convinced that it's easier to build children than to repair adults. We are committed to seeking the benefits of early prevention for children and youth.

Economic Security

All our children depend upon parents and communities for financial support, in order to become healthy adults and productive citizens. They have a greater chance to thrive when their parents have the education and skills to secure well-paying employment, with schedules and benefits supportive of family life and well-being. Children and adolescents grow quickly and soon need education and training that will prepare them with modern skills, for good jobs in their chosen careers.

Families with low incomes often have difficulty providing the needed resources for children to advance in skills. High school youth need equal opportunities to discover their options, to develop healthy attitudes toward learning and work, and to test their abilities in both school and employment.

In Utah, five government systems have been accessed by people who want training for employment: (1) JOBS and SPED or the Single Parent Employment Demonstration Program, available now in nine areas of Utah. After January 1996, this will be available in 50% of the state as a welfare reform effort by the Office of Family Support, Department of Human Services. (2) JTPA (Job Training Partnership Act) and the Single Head-of-Household Training in the Office of Job Training, Department of Community and Economic Development. (3) Applied Technology Centers, Turning Point Programs, and Vocational Rehabilitation, under the State Office of Education. (4) Colleges and Universities of higher education, under the State Board of Regents. (5) JOB CORPS - under the U.S. Department of Labor, for those who meet age, income, safety and medical qualifications.

Out of all possible measures of well-being in this domain, UTAH KIDS COUNT has chosen to track *six challenging indicators. An editor's choice is added* at the end of this section.

MEASURES and DEFINITIONS:

Divorces, Dissolutions, Annulments

This is a measure of children whose parents' marital dissolutions have affected their lives. They have experienced their parents' divorce and possibly a serious loss of financial support for their health, educational, and safety needs. While the statewide divorce rate has been dropping in Utah, there is still no essential difference from the U.S. rate (page 2). For four recent years in Utah, 35,978 divorces, dissolutions and annulments (DDA's) have affected 44,785 dependent children. Each year, more children in Utah join the ranks of those at risk for less parental attention due to divorce. Divorce has powerful emotional, physical and financial effects upon children. In Utah, parents beginning divorce procedures are now required by law to take several hours of divorce education, to reduce domestic conflict and emphasize their continuing role as parents.

Even among well-educated families, households with only one employed adult usually have lower incomes and fewer resources for raising children. Children raised by one parent often have to work harder to attain college or post-high-school education. According to the Office of Recovery Services, Department of Human Services, as of 7/1/95 there were 69,065 Utah families who have child support orders are receiving support. Only 41% of Utah families are actually receiving court-ordered support. (ref: Office of Recovery Services).

Divorces, Dissolutions and Annulments

	1991	1992	1993	1994
DDA's	8,800	9,406	8,794	8,978
Children Affected	10,862	11,890	11,222	10,811

Source: Utah Bureau of Vital Records

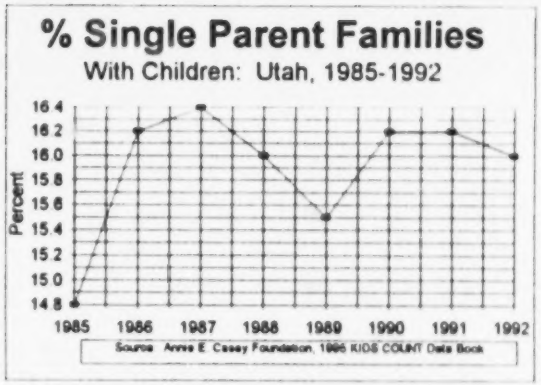
County data show that Grand, Washington, Salt Lake, Uintah, and Weber counties have the state's highest divorce rates. In fact, ten counties in Utah have rates above the national rate of 4.6. This information is often startling or disconcerting for those who move to Utah with different expectations about the permanence of Utah marriages.

Percent Single Head Families w/ Children

This is the percentage of all Utah families with "own children" who are headed by a person -m ale or female - without their spouse present in the home. "Own children" are never-married children under 18 who are related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption. In truth, few 18 year olds are able to manage on their own, without some parental support, especially if trying to achieve higher skills through education.

The graphed numbers for Utah (below) are from published by the Casey Foundation and show s ate trends. These are derived from the monthly Current Population Survey, collected in the same manner as for the Child Poverty Indicator. Questions regarding family type are collected for all family households in the Current Population Survey sample each month. A yearly average is calculated based on responses for the twelve months of that calendar year. The numbers in the graph represent three-year running or "moving" averages.

The tables on the Security Measurements page show that the highest percentage of single-headed families in Utah live in Grand, San Juan, Weber, and Tooele Counties. Not surprisingly, these counties also have high percentages of children.



These words from the 1995 KIDS COUNT National Data Book (p.7) bear repeating:

"Children in father-absent families are five times more likely to be poor and about ten times more likely to be extremely poor. By definition, these kids are likely to have less parental time and supervision. Children of single mothers are twice as likely to drop out of high school and significantly more likely to end up in foster or group care and in juvenile justice facilities. Girls from single-parent families have a three-fold greater risk of bearing children as unwed teenagers. And boys whose fathers are absent face a much higher probability of growing up unemployed, incarcerated in prisons, and uninvolved with their own children. Added to this is a growing body of research emphasizing the important role father involvement can play in the positive cognitive, emotional and social development of their sons and daughters."

One barrier to full labor market participation for all youth in Utah has been racial bias. Data from the 1990 Census is sobering about labor force participation by our minority youth. Unemployment rates among youth of color were from 58% to 160% higher than for white youth in Utah in 1990. The Office of Employment Security does not update labor force statistics between decades of the Population Census.

Utah needs to monitor the real earnings of its youth and young adults of color, following them into their mid to late twenties to track their success. We need to encourage attitudes that support the full success of youth of all colors and ethnic descent.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT - 16 to 19 years

	White	Black	Native	Asian	Other	Hisp*
MALES:						
Empl	28,601	158	228	48	558	1,225
Unempl	5,253	62	147	121	188	375
In LaborForce	33,854	220	375	569	746	1,600
% Unempl	15.5%	28.2%	39.2%	21.3%	25.2%	23.4%
FEMALES:						
Empl	28,402	69	297	400	606	1,283
Unempl	4,751	11	196	140	136	374
In LaborForce	33,153	80	493	540	742	1,657
% Unempl	14.3%	13.8%	39.8%	25.9%	18.3%	22.6%
TOTALS:						
Empl	57,003	227	525	848	1,164	2,508
Unempl	10,004	73	343	261	324	749
In LaborForce	67,007	300	868	1,109	1,488	3,257
% Unempl	14.9%	24.3%	39.5%	23.5%	21.8%	23.0%

**Hispanic: a term of ethnicity, not race. Hispanics may also be counted in any of the other racial groups. For example, a person from Peru or Mexico may be Black, White, Asian, Native (Indigenous), etc. Categories are self-reported.*
Source: Utah Bureau of Employment Security.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Availability of Licensed Child Care

This measure shows the number of slots in both licensed child care centers and in licensed family child care homes. As of July 1995, there were 22,083 slots or places for children in 306 licensed child care centers in Utah. Additionally, there were 2,520 licensed family child care providers, with total slots for 12,812 children. Slots may be filled by more than one child, due to part-time use and flexible schedules.

Utah continues to be one of the fastest growing states in the nation. During 1994, the number of babies born in Utah was 37,500. Looking at both the number of births and the net in-migration, we can estimate that the demand for child care is rising. The number of children under age 13 who have either a single parent or both parents in the work force in 1994 was approximately 302,000. Data are from Department of Human Services, Office of Licensing.

Working parents are often challenged to create the right child care arrangements. This bottom-up concern of families needs to be matched with top-down concern from employers and civic leaders. When parents cannot get their children into licensed care, they resort to informal arrangements which can put children at risk of inadequate supervision. Neglected babies and toddlers often develop poor social skills; some never "attach" emotionally and may fail to develop a healthy social conscience.

Children in Subsidized Child Care

This is the average number of children per month whose child care is subsidized. Subsidies help low-income employed parents and are also available for training and education that leads to employment. Children receiving this subsidy may come from families also needing help with medical care and housing. In fiscal year 1995, an average of 13,521 children per month received subsidized care. County level data are unavailable for this indicator.

There is a gap between what is paid for subsidized child care and the true cost of providing care. This contributes to decreased quality of child care through inadequate and unstable supply of child care, high worker turnover and overcrowded programs...situations which can put children at risk for later social difficulties.

The following table shows the daily rates for state subsidized child care in Utah. 'License Exempt' means care exempt from licensing rules because they care for fewer than four children; operate for fewer than four hours each day; or are operated by a religious or educational entity. In the table, FAM Home = Family Child Care Home (maximum of 6 children, with no more than 2 under age two); FAM Group = Family Group Home (2 providers, maximum 12 children, no more than 4 under two); Center= Child Care Center (full day programs for over 12 children in a group).

Daily Rates for Subsidized Child Care

URBAN	Infant	Toddler	Preschool	School-Age
Exempt	$11.28	$9.04	$8.28	$8.28
FAM Home	12.41	9.40	9.11	9.11
FAM Group	12.72	10.60	10.60	10.60
Center	15.69	11.33	11.33	11.33

RURAL	Infant	Toddler	Preschool	School-Age
Exempt	11.16	8.28	8.28	8.28
FAM Home	12.28	9.11	9.11	9.11
FAM Group	12.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Center	14.23	10.90	10.90	10.90

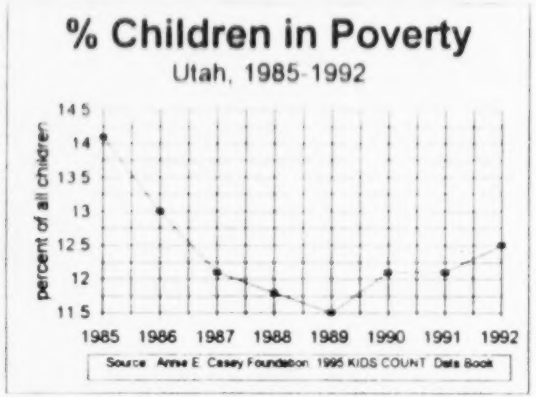
SOURCE: Office of Family Support, Department of Human Services, 10/95

Percent of Children in Poverty

This is the share of Utah children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold (updated annually). Poverty status is determined by comparing household income from the previous calendar year to a threshold amount for household size.

The child poverty graph on the next page shows numbers reported for Utah by the Casey Foundation. These data were derived from the monthly Current Population Survey, conducted by U.S. Bureau of the Census. Questions are asked annually about income in the previous calendar year. Because Utah's sample size is small, the figure represents a five-year average. For example, the figure for 1992 is the average of data from 1990 through 1994; the figure for

1991 is the average from 1989 through 1993. Data from the Current Population Survey are not available at the county level. County data are reported by the State Data Center, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, from the 1990 Census of Population & Housing.



AFDC Recipients

This measure counts the number of Utah families with children who are receiving public assistance. The practice of giving government (federal and state) Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) began in the 1930's, as part of the Social Security Act. Congress took action to provide financial support to widows & children when their breadwinner's income was lost. During the federal "War on Poverty" (1960's), the program was expanded to include coverage for all poor single parent families with children.

With the 1988 Family Support Act, Congress sought to help AFDC families get off welfare and into the work force by providing support services needed to remove barriers to work; for example, job training, child care, and emergency assistance were included. The act also signaled a decision by Congress to take an active role in effective collection of child support; states were required to pass a series of new measures toward that goal. Utah has an active Office of Recovery Services working to find delinquent parents owing child support.

Counting the number of AFDC recipients is one way to know how many people have no place to turn, and need to seek government assistance. AFDC caseloads indicate some of the ability of single parents with children to (1) find jobs with which they can support a family, (2) find subsidized child care, (3) collect adequate child support on a regular basis, and (4) find a way to provide health care for children and themselves.

AFDC will end this year, and a new state-operated system will come into being in Utah, as in other states of our nation. Whatever it is called, UTAH KIDS COUNT will report on children in families receiving public assistance. Data in this book were reported by Department of Human Services, Office of Family Support.

Homeless Children & Youth (Editor's Choice)

When children are homeless, they are without the stable supports provided by familiar people, places and patterns of interacting. According to the federal Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, a homeless student is one who meets one of the following criteria:
"(1) Lacks a fixed, regular and adequate residence; or (2) Has primary nighttime residence in homeless shelters, welfare hotels, conjugate shelters, or spouse abuse shelters; or (3) Sleeps in a public or private place not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or (4) Out of necessity lives with relatives or friends due to lack of housing; or runaway children (under 18 years of age) and children and youth who have been abandoned or forced out of home by parents or other caretakers , or a. temporarily reside in shelters awaiting assistance from Social Service Agencies, or b. live alone on the street or move from place to place between family members, friends and acquaintances; or (5) Children of migrant families who lack adequate housing (which includes heat, electricity, running water); or (6) Women under 21 without high school diploma residing in safe-houses or shelters for victims of domestic violence."

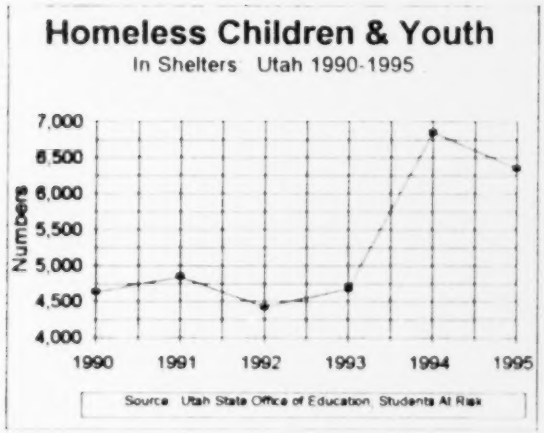
For a child to spend even one night in a shelter is a failure of several systems that are part of a safe and supportive childhood. The loss of friends and disconnection from familiarity are usually traumatic for children, who may feel as

if some kind of death has occurred. To spend several weeks in a shelter and then move from place to place, can disrupt a child's mental and physical health, sense of safety and ability to concentrate in school. These children have many needs, like all children; but they especially need safe spaces to play, learn, and rest where loving people accept and encourage them consistently. Often they have witnessed substance abuse and domestic violence.

Utah is now seeing increasing numbers of homeless children and families. Numbers alone cannot tell us if these children will have the resilience to overcome this dip in their security.

Utah, 1994

School-age children considered homeless	13,933
Students living in Homeless Shelters	6,384
Migrant Health Services	275
Youth Corrections (AWOL/on the streets)	216
Runaways & Castaways	unknown



HOMELESS SHELTERS TAKING CHILDREN & YOUTH:

City	Number of Shelters	Number of Kids
Blanding	1	5
Brigham City	2	71
Cedar City	3	123
Clearfield	1	27
Helper	1	49
Logan	1	115
Moab	1	48
Ogden City	3	2,155
Price	1	72
Provo	3	1,135
Richfield	1	173
Salt Lake City	8	2,113
St. George	5	185
Tooele	1	74
Vernal	1	34
Wendover	1	5
STATE TOTAL	34	6,384

** These numbers for 1995 show a count of children who are homeless for any period of time, even one night. Some may be counted more than once, in more than one shelter, when parents travel in search of work.*

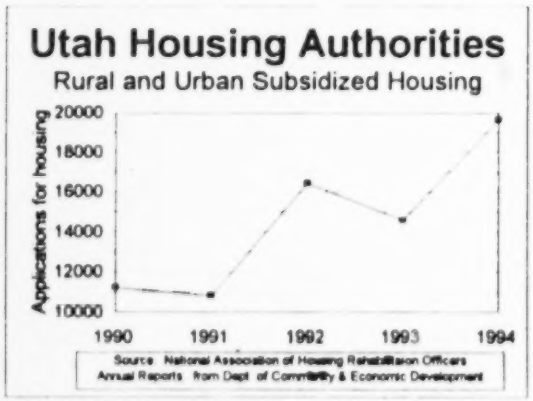
Nearly 20% of homeless adults are employed, but at lowest wage-rates. Many families wait long months to get into subsidized housing; during this time they sleep in cars or camps, double up in rentals - which is very risky - or as a last resort, they turn to shelters.

After a family is in a shelter for a week, they are eligible for low-cost or subsidized housing. Persons with dependent children receive high priority for openings in subsidized housing, but in Utah most waiting lists for this housing are longer than the number of units available.

SUBSIDIZED HOUSING AVAILABLE IN UTAH

Housing Authority	1993 *Units	1994 Appl's	1995 Appl's	% Change in Appl's
Bear River	254	206	212	2.9
Beaver City	18	10	10	0
Carbon County	423	150	394	162.7
Cedar City	65	151	151	0
Davis County	1,231	973	1,250	28.5
Emery County	92	64	64	0
Grand County	45	202	202	0
Ogden City	1,334	1,015	1,324	30.4
Provo City	802	984	925	-6.0
Roosevelt/Myton	63	200	200	0
Salt Lake City	2,147	2,797	6,272	24.2
Salt Lake County	1,906	6,100	6,100	0
St. George	181	148	315	112.8
Tooele County	223	500	500	0
Utah County	745	283	283	0
Weber County	76	250	250	0
West Valley	381	560	1,200	114.3
TOTAL	9,986	14,593	19,652	34.7%

** Units includes public housing, Section 8 certificates, vouchers, new construction, rehabilitation of existing units, etc. From NAHRO reports.*



Security Measurements

	Divorce, 1994		Family Composition, 1990		Availability of Child Care in Licensed Facilities, July 1995						Poverty, 1990		Aid to Families w/Dependent Children		
					Center Care				Family Care				1995 Aid to Single Parent Families		
County	Rates	Rank Best to Worst	% of Families w/ Children Headed by a Single parent	Rank Best to Worst	# of centers	infant slots	children slots	school-age slots	# of homes	slots	% of Children in Families in Poverty	Rank Best to Worst	Cases	Adults	Children
Beaver	2.9	8	8.9	3	0	0	0	0	6	40	15.2	13	28	24	59
Box Elder	4.3	16	10.7	8	2	20	140	0	91	446	7.9	3	233	173	407
Cache	3.3	10	9.5	5	6	28	391	0	160	884	11.3	7	288	246	528
Carbon	4.9	23	17.3	24	5	4	45	116	22	190	16.7	19	366	337	663
Daggett	4.0	15	13.9	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	20.9	25	13	12	17
Davis	3.9	14	14.2	19	22	143	1,890	73	404	2,011	7.8	1	1,421	1,251	2,588
Duchesne	4.8	22	15.3	22	1	0	25	0	19	150	21.9	26	253	238	502
Emery	2.8	6	10.1	7	0	0	0	0	15	105	11.0	6	144	142	262
Garfield	4.3	16	11.5	13	0	0	0	0	1	4	20.2	22	29	28	68
Grand	6.4	29	22.0	29	0	0	0	0	5	42	16.5	18	100	91	209
Iron	3.8	12	14.8	21	2	4	72	0	41	250	16.4	17	224	205	445
Juab	0.7	1	12.6	15	1	8	25	0	7	40	12.3	10	62	60	111
Kane	4.4	18	13.7	17	0	0	0	0	6	44	20.6	23	54	49	137
Millard	1.8	3	10.0	6	2	12	41	0	6	79	17.8	21	92	88	185
Morgan	3.3	10	9.2	4	0	0	0	0	9	41	10.3	5	6	6	11
Piute	0.7	1	10.8	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.3	28	10	10	20
Rich	2.7	5	7.3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	16.0	15	9	8	12
Salt Lake	5.4	27	18.4	26	185	997	11,288	1,948	817	3,902	11.6	8	6,425	5,247	11,920
San Juan	2.6	4	20.1	28	1	3	17	0	11	89	38.5	29	448	365	963
Sanpete	5.1	24	13.1	16	2	12	30	0	16	112	20.8	24	142	130	325
Sevier	4.6	20	11.0	10	2	8	57	0	36	242	16.1	16	225	212	440
Summit	4.5	19	11.4	12	8	76	354	0	11	60	8.3	4	33	26	55
Tooele	4.7	21	18.1	25	2	8	131	0	21	115	14.7	12	342	287	631
Uintah	5.3	26	16.4	23	2	8	58	0	9	57	22.3	27	426	385	833
Utah	3.8	12	11.2	11	25	237	1,594	75	481	2,258	12.6	11	1,566	1,373	2,935
Wasatch	2.8	6	11.7	14	1	8	38	0	6	45	7.8	1	66	56	114
Washington	5.9	28	14.6	20	10	108	629	0	84	421	15.7	14	474	417	914
Wayne	3.0	9	6.6	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	17.0	20	11	10	19
Weber	5.2	25	18.6	27	27	263	1,754	65	235	1,181	11.8	9	2,332	1,893	4,375
State Total	4.7		15.7%		306	1,947	18,579	2,277	2,520	12,812	12.2%		15,822	13,369	29,748

Divorce data: Utah Bureau of Vital Records; Family composition and poverty data: 1990 Census, U.S. Bureau of the Census; Child Care Data: Utah Dept of Human Services, Licensing (slots measure the capacity of licensed facilities one slot may be filled by more than one child due to part time schedule); AFDC data: Utah Dept of Human Services, Family Support

Conclusion

KIDS COUNT is an appropriate name for our project, in at least three ways. We offer here a count of kids to show their status or well-being. Kids also count because while they are growing and developing, they learn to count and make distinctions; then use those distinctions to form a world-view, a pattern of relating/parenting that affects their children and communities.

Kids count a third vital way: they matter to our future. Their well-being is critical to society's well-being. There is a connection between how kids are doing and how society is doing. Recent changes - like the gradual decrease in manufacturing jobs - may not have been felt as rapidly in Utah as elsewhere, but these data show that we are neither isolated nor immune from the trends affecting the rest of the nation. But we are fortunate, for we still have time in Utah to understand our greatest needs and figure out what we should do about them.

Social, economic, and physical effects on families are in constant flux. Long-term trends show that economic and social changes are now affecting families more than we thought in the past. Many people are increasingly concerned about what is happening to kids. While affluent families are wealthier than ever, middle class families are struggling to afford college, and poor families have grown poorer. The Carnegie Foundation calls this "the quiet crisis."

When families are economically threatened, they can become fearful, not seeing ways to organize themselves to raise children with good health, safety, education, security and relaxation. Negative impacts in one domain may disturb equilibrium in other domains.

For example, if water, fuel/energy and vaccines were suddenly unavailable in Salt Lake City (as in Sarajevo), these disturbances would quickly affect family life and therefore children's health, education, safety, and security. Big changes in our lives touch all children, no matter their age, race, gender, or abilities. If my child has chronic poor health, that affects his/her ability to participate in after-school activities. If your children need but do not receive adequate health care, that can affect their mastery of schoolwork - making school an embarrassment or trial for them; they may disturb other learners. All our children in Utah need adults to pause and reflect on some socio-economic changes now occuring.

The big picture is easy to miss when we are caught in the daily rush of living. Minor shifts in economic conditions are marked periodically by major shifts at critical turning points. Turning points in history are interrelated, affecting everyone. None of the big changes occurred in one or two decades, but their impact was felt widely and intensely by many communities and families. Some have been:

1) changes in science and knowledge - from the mathematical, mechanistic model of the universe (Copernicus, Kepler, Bacon, Galileo, Descartes, Newton) to the atomic/quantum/systems view of life as one dynamic, ecological whole (Einstein, Planck, Heisenberg, Lazslo, Bohm, Capra).

2) changes in technology and trades - for example, the Commerce/Guilds revolution (14th century); the Industrial Revolution (19th Century); the Information or "knowledge" Revolution (now, in the late 20th Century).

3) changes in market production - for example, immediately after WW II, the United States became the supplier of modern goods for the whole world; real incomes grew dramatically. During that time, more families were able to buy homes on one full-time income. Since 1975, more families have found it more difficult to meet their housing, medical and food needs.

Reports from the Children's Defense Fund show that poor children in the United States are poorer than children in other industrialized Western nations. In Utah, it is estimated that one in eight children live in poverty. Because children are dependent, their health, safety, education and financial security are always affected by parents economic levels and shifts.

Most business and government leaders of today grew up when families thrived on one income. Their memories of unparalleled prosperity, growth and stability may be clouding their view of reality for today's families. We hope this book will help us all to improve our vision and think in larger terms. Since we are increasingly interdependent, we need to know how all kids are doing - not just those in our own homes. We need to look for ways to factor children into our planning for the future and make kids count more in our communities and nation.

Sources

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Capra, F. *The Turning Point*. Simon & Schuster, 1982.

Casey Foundation: *KIDS COUNT Data Books*. 1992-1995.

Coontz, S. *The Way We Never Were*. Basic Books, 1992.

Elliott, M. *Why the Homeless Don't Have Homes and What To Do About It*. Pilgrim Press, 1993.

Hamlin, A. & Ropers, R. "Social and Economic Inequality" in *Utah in Perspective*. Ed, Tim Heaton (forthcoming)

Haveman, R. & Wolfe, B. *Succeeding Generations*. Russell Sage Foundation, 1994.

Hawken, P. *The Ecology of Commerce*. HarperCollins, 1993

Hewlett, S.A. *When the Bough Breaks*. Basic Books, 1991.

Jencks, C. *The Homeless*. Harvard University Press, 1994.

Iverson, S. & Sandburg, M. *Incidents and Risk Factors of Shaken Baby Syndrome in the State of Utah*. Ogden, UT: Child Abuse Prevention Council, 1994.

Louv, R. *Childhood's Future*. Anchor Books, 1991.

Magid, K. & McKelvey, C. *High Risk: Children Without a Conscience*, 2nd Edition. Bantam Publ. 1989

Phillips, K. *Boiling Point*. Harper Collins, 1993.

Schwartz, P. *The Art of the Long View*. Doubleday, 1991.

Sweeney, J. & Nussbaum, K. *Solutions for the New Work Force*. Seven Locks Press, 1989.

Toffler, A. & H. *Creating a New Civilization: the Politics of the Third Wave*. Turner Publ., 1995

Wallerstein, J.S. & Blakeslee, S. *Second Chances: a Decade after Divorce*. Ticknor & Fields, 1989.

INDICATOR	Health	Education	Safety	Security	DATA Contact Person
Prenatal care in First Trimester	x				Bureau of Vital Records John Brockert, 538-6360
Low Birth Weight Infants	x				same as above
Infant Mortality	x				same as above
Births to Teens	x				same as above
Immunization Rates by 2 yrs. & Kindergarten Entry	x				Bureau of Epidemiology Chris Perfili, 538-6191
Children Receiving Free and Reduced Price Meals	x				State Office of Education Hal Robbins, 538-7669
Average Class Size		x			same as above
Expenditures per child		x			same as above
Drop-outs, grades 10 - 12		x			same as above
Teens Not in school & working		x			State Data Center, 538-1036
Child Abuse cases			x		Division of Family Services Mark Wensel, 538-4018
Child Death rates			x		Bureau of Vital Records John Brockert, 538-6360
Teen Death rates (violent)			x		same as above
Juvenile Crime Arrests (violent)			x		Criminal Identification Bureau, Carolyn Parker, 965-4566
Divorce Rates by children involved				x	Bureau of Vital Records John Brockert, 538-6360
Single Parent Families				x	State Data Center, 538-1056
Children living in poverty				x	same as above
Subsidized Child Care, licensed openings				x	Office of Licensing Duane Dowden, 538-4238
Licensed Child Care Slots				x	same as above
AFDC Case Loads (children)				x	Office of Family Support Kristy Carlston, 538-4125

About Utah Children

Utah Children was founded in 1985 by individuals concerned about children whose parents are least able to nurture and provide for them. Our goal is to encourage preventive investment in children before they get sick, get into trouble, drop out of school or suffer family breakdown. Our work is not direct service, but it seeks to complement direct services for children by providing a bridge between community programs and state policy-making. Utah Children seeks to: 1) improve and increase the effectiveness of the public systems charged with the protection of abused, neglected and foster children; 2) assure children have adequate nutrition, health care, child care and monetary support from their absent parents; and 3) assure that safe, quality child care is available to all children.

METHODS

Research - Issue identification and policy analysis
Education - Sharing factual information
Publications - Newsletter and topical reports
Legislative Reports - Reports and presentations
Speakers Bureau- Tailored presentations
Advocacy Consultation - Strategy development
Networking - Bridges for communities
Recognition - Annual child advocacy award

OPERATIONS

Utah Children's work is guided by a board of trustees representing a wide range of backgrounds and expertise. Staff is responsible for program activities. Volunteers assist with research, advocacy, mass mailings, and other activities. University interns are placed periodically at Utah Children. Committees are convened as needed to study, consult and advise the board and staff on pertinent issues affecting families and children and to recommend actions and strategies for improving services to children and their families.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- A statewide organization speaking out for the interests of children
- Coordinates efforts of citizens and service providers advocating for children
- A dozen publications and four position papers
- *Rights, Responsibilities, Relationships,* Utah's children's rights handbook
- Annual data book, now a standard resource for decision makers
- Statewide advocacy conference 1990-1995
- KIDS COUNT grantee for State of Utah
- Improved outcomes for at-risk children
  - cost-of-living increase for children on public assistance
  - treatment of handicapped infants and toddlers
  - reforms in child welfare and foster care program
  - more child welfare workers
  - expanded guardian ad litem program
  - establishment of office of child care
  - lower child/provider ratios in child care
  - increased training for child care providers
  - increased health services for children in low-income families
  - better collaboration among state agencies

UTAH CHILDREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PEARL ANDERSON
Parent Advocate

DARYL BARRETT
"You're In Charge" Program

GEORGIA H. BIRCUMSHAW
Foote, Passey & Griffin

JOANN DANIELS
Mervyn's

MARC E. DAY
American Express

ELIA DEL CASTILLO
Turning Point, Provo

PETER ELLISON
Zion's First National Bank
Trust Department

DELLA GARCIA
Utah Power

JUDGE REGNAL GARFF
Sr. Judge, Court of Appeals

JOAN GEIS
Jo Lane Company

STEWART M. HANSON, JR.
Snitter, Axland, Hanson

SHELLEY HENRIOD
Salt Lake City

DIANE HESLEPH
Granite High School

DUANE HILL
Duane Hill Marketing Concepts

JOE HORTON
Primary Children's Medical Center

BUZZ HUNT
Salt Lake City Airport Authority

KAY JACOBSON
Parent Education Resource Center
Provo

JOHN LAMBORN
First Security Bank

HELENE LETA
University of Utah
Graduate School of Social Work

BARBARA DAY LOCKHART, Ed.D.
Brigham Young University

DAVID R. MANOOKIN
KSL Television

TOM METCALF, M.D.
American Academy of Pediatrics
Utah Chapter

GIL A. MILLER
Coopers & Lybrand

MARK MORRIS
Snell & Wilmer

LORI ROGGMAN, Ph.D.
Utah State University

MARY BELLE ROYER
Cedar City

H. E. "BUD" SCRUGGS
Brigham Young University

MICHAEL E. TOBIN
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Utah

FLORA WEGGELAND
Salt Lake City School District

NORMA MATHESON
Honorary Chairman

UTAH CHILDREN STAFF

Rosalind J. McGee, Executive Director
Marisol Paez, Office Coordinator
Veda Romney, Office Volunteer
Patrice Spiegel, Advocacy Coordinator
Cynthia Taylor, KIDS COUNT Coordinator

About Utah Kids Count

UTAH KIDS COUNT is one of several projects of Utah Children. It is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation of Baltimore, MD which funds similar projects in every state for the purpose of 1) measuring and reporting on the status of children over time, and then 2) using that information creatively to inform public debate and strengthen public action on behalf of children and families within our nation.

Through KIDS COUNT projects the Annie E. Casey Foundation encourages state, county, and city efforts to track the status of children for the purpose of ensuring better futures for all communities in the United States.

By providing Utah policy-makers and citizens with data-based information about child well-being, UTAH KIDS COUNT seeks to enhance local, state and national discussions concerning healthy, educated, safe and economically secure futures for all our children.

PARTNERS IN UTAH KIDS COUNT

Utah Children, Project Administrator
FACT Steering Committee
(Families, Agencies & Communities Together)
Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, State Data Center
Vanguard Media, A Private Marketing Firm

PROJECT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Daryl Barrett
"You're In Charge" Program
Della Garcia
Utah Power
Steve Holbrook
Coalition for Utah's Future/Project 2000
Buzz Hunt
Salt Lake City Airport Authority
Kay Jacobson
Parent Education Resource Center
Boyer Jarvis
Professor Emeritus, University of Utah
Terry Johnson
FACT Steering Committee, Department of Human Services
Julie Johnsson
Governor's Office of Planning and Budget State Data Center
Cindy Kindred
Vanguard Media
Rosalind J. McGee
Utah Children
Patrice Spiegel
Utah Children
Cynthia Taylor
Utah Children

Measures of Child Well-Being was prepared through the assistance, cooperation and expertise of many individuals from public and private agencies:

Design and Production Staff

Julie Johnsson, Consultant
Marvin Levy, Consultant
Marisol Paez, Office Coordinator
A. Patrice Spiegel, Consultant
Linda Stevens-Larson, Graphic Design
Cynthia B. Taylor, Writer and Editor

INDICATOR TASK GROUP

This group spent nearly ten months in researching and selecting indicators:

John Brockert, Bureau of Vital Records
David Dodd, PhD, Department of Psychology, University of Utah
Bob Huefner, Department of Political Science, University of Utah
Boyer Jarvis, Utah Children Board
Julie Johnsson, State Data Center Governor's Office of Planning & Budget
Ken Jensen, Office of Labor Market Information, Utah Department of Employment Security
Robert Lewis, Office of Social Science Research and Evalution, Department of Human Services
Cheryl May, Administrative Office of the Courts
Barry Nangle, Community and Family Health, Utah Department of Health
Susan Paris, Utahns Against Hunger
Agi Plenk, PhD, The Children's Center
Hal Robins, Utah State Office of Education
Lori Roggman, PhD, Dept. of Family Development, Utah State University
Margaret Thiele, Division of Mental Health, Utah Department of Human Services
Shirley Weathers, Utah Issues
Scott Williams, M.D., Division of Family Health, Utah Dept. of Health
Mary Ann Williams, State Office of Education and Utah Division of Mental Health, DHS
Cathleen Zick, PhD, Dept. of Family & Consumer Studies, University of Utah

Special thanks are due all the people who have helped refine this book. Extra kudos to Julie Johnsson who gave enormously to collection and organization of data; and to Marvin Levy for guiding my understanding and interpretation.

The Children of Color Task Group

"The goal of KIDS COUNT is to improve the collection and use of national, state and local data on the condition of children in a way that increases awareness of the status of all children and improves performance in addressing their needs." Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore MD

The CHILDREN OF COLOR TASK GROUP was formed to carry out these goals specifically for children of color in Utah. This group meets monthly at Utah Children. We have researched available data for "minority" children in Utah, and begun outreach through public awareness forums. The group's objectives are:

HEALTH

- Examine and make public the healthy ways children of color keep their ethnic identity, with increasing confidence and strength that it's OK to be different no matter what the prevailing climate of opinion.
- Pursue identification of "protective factors" as the bridge between various political or religious ideologies about children.
- Focus statewide on improved working relationships and diversity awareness for health education programs & professionals (clinics, nursing schools, etc.)
- Identify statewide health and mental health professionals of color who can help.

EDUCATION

- Research and make known what is being done by schools, educational groups and community organizations to improve conditions for learning for kids of color.
- Highlight schools (all ages and types) where innovative projects are in place - or being developed - to increase successes for children of color; make these public.
- Work with State Board of Education and Association of Principals to fold in cultural, racial/ethnic sensitivity with parenting skills education in middle schools, high schools and colleges.
- Increase awareness of supervisors, principals, teachers, and PTA's about the needs of children of color for social and educational innovations within schools - i.e. attention to the "hidden" as well as the formal curriculum. Involve High School newspaper editors in this process.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

- Publish glossary of terms, annotated with explanations (e.g. why "minority" is not an inclusive term; identify what language is more inclusive or better for each group).
- Collect data on children of color; work into annual data book as possible.
- MEDIA CAMPAIGN: train a corps of volunteers in media watch techniques - emphasis on how people of color appear in the media; work closely with media representatives in developing this; provide written report to UTAH KIDS COUNT.
- Publish Issue Brief defining issues and showing data-based information about Utah's Children of Color.
- Promote inclusiveness within all our networks, agencies, offices, Boards.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Educate police and sheriffs to greater awareness of the needs of families of color and the current cultural changes in Utah.
- Train law enforcement people to recognize their/our racial stereotypes about "good" vs. "bad" kids, and unstated assumptions of criminal activity among 'different' kids.
- Work with Juvenile Courts relating to penalties for teens of color; refine this objective as more information is available.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

- Recognize, publicize and create partnerships with businesses, employers and educational programs that focus on ethnic populations and their needs.
- Identify potential partnerships with Utah business leaders to make a difference for kids of color through these avenues. Highlight model employers who make a difference in diversity awareness.
- Gather information on and publicize model employer practices regarding culturally sensitive and community approaches.

Report on these endeavors in semi-annual reports to the Casey Foundation; share with other State Kids Count groups our "takes" and mis-takes in making change for children of color. Learn to celebrate both diversity and our common humanity!
Every unique kid counts.

62

63

Children's Action Network

Utah Children has developed a list of individuals and organizations committed to making a difference for children. The computer-based network makes possible the following activities: linking persons concerned about similar issues; sharing information; and action alerts on pending policy or legislative issues.

COPY THIS PAGE & MAIL/FAX TO:
Utah Children
747 East South Temple, Suite 150
Salt Lake City, UT, 84102
801/364-1182 FAX 801/364-1186

YES...
- ☐ I support the *Pledge to Our Children* (see next page)
- ☐ I want to be part of the *Children's Action Network*
- ☐ Send membership information

I want to be a force for change in...
- ☐ Child abuse prevention
- ☐ Child care
- ☐ Foster care
- ☐ Health care services for children
- ☐ AFDC - income supports for poor families
- ☐ Child support
- ☐ Divorce impact on children
- ☐ Juvenile justice
- ☐ Mental health
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Adoption
- ☐ Children with disabilities

Other: _____

I want to be involved through...
- ☐ KIDS COUNT regional meetings
- ☐ Writing letters
- ☐ Making phone calls
- ☐ Serving on a committee
- ☐ Speaking to groups
- ☐ Office work
- ☐ Endorsement
- ☐ Legislative monitoring

I represent...
- ☐ Myself

The following organization:

_____

- ☐ I provide direct services to children
- ☐ I work for government
- ☐ I am an elected official

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State & Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____ FAX _____

65

• Copyright 1996 UTAH CHILDREN

A Pledge to Our Children

Utah Children has chosen this theme to unify and mobilize Utah child advocates. The Board of Trustees considered a number of approaches. A Bill of Rights was too legalistic. A dream...a vision...a promise were all too vague. We have chosen the word *pledge* because it implies commitment and looking to the future. We have selected words and phrases to cover the breadth of children's needs. We believe the pledge, with the endorsement of many individuals and groups, will provide a reference point for specific initiatives by Utah citizens in future years.

We pledge to ensure that our children:

- *are loved and nurtured*
- *are nourished and sheltered from harm*
- *grow and flourish in safe places among those who care*
- *live free of exploitation, abuse and neglect*
- *receive health care and comfort*
- *are educated in mind and spirit and developed in body*
- *are prepared to assume responsibility and accept the consequences of their actions*
- *are prepared to assume productive roles in society*

Finally we pledge to guard our children's liberty, rights and dignity.

© Copyright 1996 UTAH CHILDREN

Funding

Research and production costs underwritten by:
The Annie E. Casey Foundation

Additional funding for Utah Children:

All Saints Episcopal Church
Allied Aftermarket
AT & T
Bank One, Utah, NA
Ruth E. & John E. Bamberger Memorial Foundation
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Utah
Bonneville International Corporation
Castle Foundation
Chevron Companies
Christ United Methodist Church
Coopers & Lybrand
CPC Olympus View Hospital
Dahle's Big and Tall
Dr. W. C. Swanson Family Foundation
Duane Hill Marketing
Exchange Club of Salt Lake City
Henry W. & Leslie M. Eskuche Foundation
First Interstate Foundation
First Security Bank
Geneva Steel
Herbert I. & Elsa B. Michael Foundation
Intermountain Health Care, Inc.
Jo Lene Company, Inc.
Kearns Tribune Corporation
Kennecott Corporation
L. T. Dee and J. T. Dee Foundation
Lifetime Products, Inc.
M & M Distributing Company
Masonic Foundation of Utah Inc.
Smith Family Philanthropic Fund
The Achelis Foundation
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Foundation
The Episcopal Diocese Charitable Fund
The Pub, Inc.
Thompson Michie Associates Inc.
United Parcel Service
United Savings Bank
Utah State Employees's Charitable Fund
Pacificorp Foundation, Utah Power Fund
Wheeler Machinery Co.

THE PRINTING COMPANY
2978 South State Street, Suite B
Salt Lake City, Utah 84115

UTAH CHILDREN

747 East South Temple, Suite 150
Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
SLC, UT
Permit No. 4391

73

72

$10.00